



## A Culture of Outreach

For the last few months God has been waking me up early before my alarm goes off and placing it upon my heart to pray for our churches and members in the Maritime Conference. I have been seeing that God is doing a great work with many of our members and churches and that He is providing for us in ways we could never imagine. I have also been witnessing that there almost seems to be a shaking beginning in some of our churches. There seems to be something distracting God's people from the clear message that God has given us to share and to live. Now, before we are able share this message we need to be living the message first. God's last day church will have the exact same character as Christ did when He was on this earth.

As we come closer to the Second Coming of Jesus, God's last day church will form a character that is identical to that of Jesus. This will only happen when only Jesus takes up residence in our own hearts and minds. The closer we come to Jesus the more we will begin to act and think like Him in all situations. We will be kinder and gentler people, known for our care and prayer for those that are lost. There will be a joy and peace that will permeate the lives of His church as we come closer to the event of the Second Coming.

In looking at what some of our churches are going through I am noticing a marked difference between two separating groups of people. There is a group that when difficulties come they drop to their knees and form prayer bands to pray about what they are encountering in their lives and in their church. This group starts to press together to pray for all people within the church so that the Holy Spirit may do His work in moving the hearts of all of His church closer to God. They do not meet to make the situation worse, they meet to turn all issues over to God. As this group begins to pray, the Holy Spirit starts to work on their hearts and minds to have a greater care for those who are lost. Their focus is not on themselves, but on God, His church and the lost. I like associating with this group that chose prayer over

## Une culture d'évangélisation

Au cours des derniers mois, Dieu m'a réveillé tôt, avant que mon réveil-matin ne sonne, et a mis sur mon cœur de prier pour nos églises et nos membres de la Fédération Maritime. J'ai vu que Dieu fait un grand travail avec beaucoup de nos membres et de nos églises et qu'Il rencontre nos besoins de façons que nous ne pourrions jamais imaginer. J'ai également été témoin qu'il semble presque y avoir un début de crible dans certaines de nos églises. Il semble y avoir quelque chose qui distrait le peuple de Dieu du message clair que Dieu nous a donné de vivre et partager. Avant de pouvoir partager ce message, nous devons d'abord le vivre. L'église de Dieu dans les derniers jours aura exactement le même caractère que le Christ avait quand il était sur cette terre.

Au fur et à mesure que nous nous approchons de la seconde venue de Jésus, l'église de Dieu dans les derniers jours formera un caractère identique à celui de Jésus. Cela n'arrivera que lorsque Jésus sera seul à occuper la place dans nos cœurs et nos esprits. Cela signifie que plus nous nous approcherons de Jésus, plus nous commencerons à agir et à penser comme Lui dans toutes les situations. Nous serons des gens plus gentils et plus doux, connus pour nos soins et notre prière pour ceux qui sont perdus. Il y aura une joie et une paix qui imprèneront toujours plus la vie de Son Église au fur et à mesure que nous nous approcherons de l'événement de la Seconde Venue.

En regardant ce que certaines de nos églises traversent, je remarque une différence marquée, une séparation, entre deux groupes de personnes. Il y a un groupe qui, lorsque les difficultés arrivent, se mettent à genoux et forment des groupes de prière pour prier sur ce qu'ils rencontrent dans leur vie et dans leur église. Ce groupe commence à resserrer les liens afin de prier pour tous les membres de l'église, pour que le Saint-Esprit puisse faire Son travail en rapprochant les cœurs de chaque personne dans son église vers Dieu. Ils ne se réunissent pas pour aggraver la situation, ils se réunissent pour remettre toutes choses à Dieu. Alors que ce groupe commence à prier, le Saint-Esprit commence à travailler sur leurs cœurs et leurs esprits afin qu'ils portent une plus grande attention à ceux qui sont perdus. Leur attention ne se porte pas sur eux-mêmes, mais sur Dieu, son église et les perdus. J'aime m'associer avec ce groupe qui a choisi la prière plutôt que le conflit dans

conflict in the church, they tend to be a more loving and caring group because the Holy Spirit is working in their lives.

My friend, Leif Koester, posted this on his Facebook page a few days ago that has given me much to think about. “The cause of division and discord in families and in the church is separation from Christ. To come near to Christ is to come near to one another. The secret of true unity in the church and in the family is not diplomacy, not management, not a superhuman effort to overcome difficulties—though there will be much of this to do—but union with Christ. Picture a large circle, from the edge of which are many lines all running to the center. The nearer these lines approach the center, the nearer they are to one another. Thus it is in the Christian life. The closer we come to Christ, the nearer we shall be to one another. *God is glorified as His people unite in harmonious action.*” (Ellen G. White, AH, 179) The closer we come to Jesus will result in coming closer to each other. This will be the marked difference in those who have allowed the refining work of Christ in their lives and those that have chosen another course.

Before God can use our church to reach the lost something has to change within hearts that will change the culture that we have become comfortable living in. I believe with all my heart that as God’s people begin to pray more, that God will begin to work more within our own hearts and within the doors of all our churches. It is almost that we have been going in the wrong direction for so long, we now think it is the right direction. We are finding ourselves in the same state that the church was in when Christ came to earth. Our choice will be to continue going in this direction or moving forward to imitate the same method that gave true success to Jesus.

In Matthew 28:19 Jesus gave a command to “Go” and make disciples of all nations. This is what Jesus modeled to his disciples, but today it seems we have reversed the command to “Go” and we now call people to come. Instead of going out to reach the lost we have now become comfortable with asking the lost to come to us. In fact, 90% of members within the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada will never lead anyone to Christ. That is one scary statistic! Ask yourself this question; “When was the last time you brought a person to Jesus that led to baptism?” If you are struggling with answering this question then we do have a culture within our church that needs changing.

l’église, ils ont tendance à être un groupe plus aimant et attentif parce que le Saint-Esprit travaille dans leur vie.

Mon ami Leif Koester a affiché ceci sur sa page Facebook il y a quelques jours, ce qui m’a donné beaucoup à réfléchir. « La cause des divisions et des discordes dans les familles et dans l’Église est la séparation d’avec le Christ. Se rapprocher du Christ, c’est s’approcher les uns des autres. Le secret de la véritable unité dans l’Église et dans la famille n’est pas la diplomatie, ni la gestion, ni un effort surhumain pour surmonter les difficultés - bien qu’il y ait beaucoup à faire en ce sens - mais l’union avec le Christ. Imaginez un grand cercle, à partir du bord duquel se trouvent de nombreuses lignes qui courent toutes jusqu’au centre. Plus ces lignes s’approchent du centre, plus elles se rapprochent les unes des autres. Il en est ainsi dans la vie chrétienne. Plus nous nous approcherons du Christ, plus nous serons proches les uns des autres. Dieu est glorifié lorsque Son peuple s’unit dans une action harmonieuse. » (Ellen G. White, AH, 179) Plus nous nous approcherons de Jésus, plus nous nous rapprocherons les uns des autres. Ce sera ce qui marquera la différence entre ceux qui ont permis l’œuvre transformatrice du Christ dans leur vie et ceux qui ont choisi une autre voie.

Avant que Dieu puisse utiliser notre église pour atteindre les perdus, quelque chose doit changer dans les cœurs et qui transformera la culture dans laquelle nous nous complaisons. Je crois de tout mon cœur qu’au fur et à mesure que les enfants de Dieu commenceront à prier davantage, Dieu commencera à travailler davantage dans nos propres cœurs et à l’intérieur de toutes nos églises. C’est comme si nous nous étions engagés dans la mauvaise direction depuis si longtemps, que nous pensons maintenant que c’est la bonne direction. Nous nous trouvons dans le même état dans lequel se trouvait l’église quand le Christ est venu sur terre. Notre choix sera de continuer à aller dans cette direction ou d’aller de l’avant en mettant en pratique la même méthode qui a donné le vrai succès à Jésus.

Dans Matthieu 28:19 Jésus a donné l’ordre de « Aller » et faire de toutes les nations des disciples. C’est le modèle que Jésus a enseigné à ses disciples. Mais aujourd’hui nous semblons avoir inversé le commandement qui dit « Aller » et nous appelons plutôt les gens à venir vers nous. Au lieu de sortir pour atteindre les perdus, nous sommes plus à l’aise de demander aux perdus de venir à nous. En fait, 90 % des membres de l’Église Adventiste du Septième Jour au Canada ne mèneront jamais personne au Christ. C’est une statistique effrayante! Posez-vous cette question: Quand avez-vous amené pour la dernière fois une personne à Jésus et qui a conduit au baptême? Si vous avez de la difficulté à répondre à cette question, c’est que nous avons une culture au sein de notre église qui a besoin de changer.

I asked the angel why there was no more faith and power in Israel. He said, "Ye let go of the arm of the Lord too soon." EGW, Early Writings, 73

Two or three years ago the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick governments set out to change the culture of how we embrace people from “Away.” The two provinces understood that in order to retain people in the work force that were not from the Maritimes, was to reverse the cultural norm that seems to isolate those that are from “Away.” Immigration Canada has even gotten involved to address this problem since there is a great shortage of trained workers in the Maritimes and we have been unable to keep them in our three provinces. The major reason people from “Away” leave the Maritimes is due to loneliness. According to recent studies within the North American Division, our churches seem to suffer from the same culture anomaly.

There are many factors that can account for this change in mission focus, but will we make the needed changes to improve the current comfortable culture within our church? At the Maritime Conference, we have been praying and studying on how we will be best able to change our current culture to one that is very willing to reach the lost where they are. We will be seeking to move back to the Biblical model of “Going” and making disciples. Not only have we become comfortable with the call to come, but we have also forgotten the focus of “making disciples.” Today we are a church that has become too pastor-dependant. We expect the pastor to do the work of evangelism, but in order for us to grow in the Maritimes we must reverse the trend and move towards **Total Member Involvement**. We are finding that our methods need to adjust in reaching people as we look at how to reach the various generations that are becoming more absent within our church.

The only areas of growth within the North American Seventh-day Adventist Church comes from immigration and we are beginning to see that this is our greatest area of growth in the Maritimes. We no longer are able to reach the general population of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> generation Canadians of any cultural background. It is as if our church is calibrated for a world that no longer exists and that we are cutting edge for 1985 and not 2018. So how will we adjust in order to reach the lost that are outside of our church doors, especially those under the age of 55?

As the North American Division studies these phenomena within the Church, they have come to a startling conclusion that for every five people we baptise, four will no longer be in the church 6 months to 2 years later. In order to combat the large numbers

Il y a deux ou trois ans, les gouvernements de la Nouvelle-Écosse et du Nouveau-Brunswick ont entrepris de changer la culture en ce qui concerne la façon dont nous accueillons les gens venant d’ « ailleurs. » Les deux provinces ont compris que, pour retenir dans la population active des gens qui ne sont pas issus des Maritimes, il fallait renverser la norme culturelle qui semble isoler ceux qui viennent d’ « ailleurs. » Immigration Canada s’est même attelé à régler ce problème puisqu’il y a une grande pénurie de travailleurs qualifiés dans les Maritimes et que nous n’avons pas été en mesure de les garder dans nos trois provinces. La principale raison pour laquelle les gens de l’extérieur quittent les Maritimes est la solitude. Selon des études récentes de la Division nord-américaine, nos Églises semblent souffrir de la même anomalie culturelle.

Il y a beaucoup de facteurs qui peuvent expliquer ce changement dans l’orientation de la mission, mais la question qui s’impose est: ferons-nous les changements nécessaires pour améliorer l’actuelle culture du confort au sein de notre église? À la Fédération Maritime, nous avons prié et étudié au sujet de la meilleure façon de transformer notre culture actuelle en une culture qui soit plus désireuse d’atteindre les perdus là où ils sont. Nous chercherons à revenir au modèle biblique de « Aller » et faire des disciples. Non seulement nous sommes devenus confortables avec un appel à « venir » mais nous avons aussi oublié l’accent mis sur la « formation des disciples. » Aujourd’hui nous sommes une église qui est devenue dépendante du pasteur. Nous nous attendons à ce que le pasteur fasse le travail d’évangélisation, mais pour que nous puissions grandir dans les Maritimes, nous devons renverser la tendance et nous diriger vers la participation totale des membres « **Total Member Involvement**. » Nous comprenons que nos méthodes doivent s’ajuster afin d’atteindre les gens lorsque l’on se questionne à savoir comment atteindre les différentes générations qui, on le constate, deviennent de plus en plus absentes dans notre église.

Les seuls domaines de croissance au sein de l’Église Adventiste du Septième Jour en Amérique du nord, sont dus à l’immigration et nous commençons à voir que c’est là aussi notre plus grand facteur de croissance dans les Maritimes. Nous ne sommes plus en mesure d’atteindre la population générale des Canadiens de la deuxième à la neuvième génération, peu importe leur origine culturelle. C’est comme si notre église avait ses instruments ajustés pour un monde qui n’existe plus et que nous étions à la fine pointe des pratiques pour le monde de 1985 et non pour celui de 2018. Alors, comment allons-nous nous ajuster pour atteindre les perdus qui sont à l’extérieur de nos portes d’église, surtout ceux qui ont moins de 55 ans?

Alors que la Division nord-américaine étudie ces phénomènes au sein de l’Église, elle en est venue à la conclusion étonnante que pour chaque groupe de cinq personnes que nous baptisons, quatre ne seront plus dans l’Église six mois à deux ans plus tard. Afin de lutter contre le grand nombre de

that we are losing out the back door and those that we are losing due to the age of our members, the Maritime Conference is launching the Mission Driven Church Master Plan.

Our Master Plan Strategic Dashboard will focus in on three major areas:

1. Our Communities:
  - a. We will increase the public's awareness of our Adventist Message
  - b. We will transform evangelism in ways that continuously engage members
  - c. We will support church planting and growth
2. Our Members:
  - a. We will work to integrate belief and practice in our organization
  - b. We will provide resources and services that are indispensable
  - c. We will foster greater compassion and social skills
3. Our Leadership within the local church:
  - a. We will create agile, accountable, and mission-focused organizations
  - b. We will foster leadership growth and excellence in all our organization
  - c. We will ensure that all people-groups are adequately represented.

The Mission Driven Church Master Plan will first focus on healthy leadership that make healthy churches. Churches that have spiritually healthy leaders (all leaders within the local church) will have churches that have good spiritual and emotional health. Churches that have good spiritual/emotional health will also naturally have a culture that reaches out to the community in order to eventually draw them to Jesus so that they can become disciples of Him. This is part of the discipleship model that Jesus used with his disciples. Healthy leadership will always be mentoring and uplifting in leadership of the youth, young adults and new members in the church.

Healthy churches will have members that are actively engaged in the close walk with Jesus and that are leading others to have that same connection with Christ and His Word. Members will care for everyone in the local church with a character that Christ had in dealing with all people. For the last year our Pastors, Conference Officers, The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada and the North American Division have been quoting one quote of Ellen White over and over again.

“Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their

personnes que nous perdons par la porte de derrière et contre celles que nous perdons en raison de l'âge de nos membres, la Fédération Maritime lance le Plan directeur pour une Église missionnaire.

Notre tableau de bord stratégique dans ce Plan directeur se concentrera sur trois grands axes:

1. Nos communautés:
  - a. Nous sensibiliserons davantage le public à notre Message Adventiste
  - b. Nous transformerons l'évangélisation de manière à engager continuellement les membres
  - c. Nous soutiendrons l'implantation et la croissance des églises
2. Nos membres:
  - a. Nous travaillerons à intégrer croyance et mise en pratique dans notre organisation
  - b. Nous fournirons les ressources et les services jugés indispensables
  - c. Nous favoriserons une plus grande compassion et de meilleures aptitudes sociales
3. Notre leaders au sein des églises locale:
  - a. Nous créerons des organisations agiles, responsables et axées sur la mission
  - b. Nous favoriserons la croissance du leadership et l'excellence dans toute notre organisation
  - c. Nous veillerons à ce que tous les groupes de personnes soient adéquatement représentés

Le plan directeur de l'Église Orientée Mission (*Mission Driven Church*) mettra d'abord l'accent sur un leadership sain qui engendre des églises saines. Les églises qui ont des leaders spirituellement sains (tous les leaders au sein de l'église locale) engendrent des églises qui ont une bonne santé spirituelle et émotionnelle. Les églises qui ont une bonne santé spirituelle/émotionnelle auront aussi naturellement une culture qui va vers la communauté afin d'amener des âmes à Jésus permettant qu'ils puissent devenir ses disciples. Cela fait partie du modèle de discipulat que Jésus a utilisé avec ses disciples. Un leadership sain sera toujours un mentorat et une source d'inspiration pour les jeunes, les jeunes adultes et les nouveaux membres de l'Église.

Les églises saines auront des membres qui sont activement engagés dans une relation de proximité avec Jésus et qui conduisent les autres à avoir la même connexion avec le Christ et sa Parole. Les membres prendront soin de tout le monde dans l'église locale, démontrant un caractère comme celui que le Christ a eu quand Il agissait avec les gens. Au cours de la dernière année, nos pasteurs, nos responsables de Fédération, l'Église Adventiste du Septième Jour au Canada et la Division nord-américaine ont fait référence à une citation d'Ellen White à maintes reprises.

« La méthode du Christ pour sauver les âmes est la seule qui réussisse. Il se mêlait aux hommes pour leur faire du bien, leur témoignant sa sympathie, les soula-

needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me." (Ministry of Healing 143)

Pastor Schwarz pointed this out to me recently that this quote is taken from the Ministry of Healing. If we want healing within our own church, following Christ's method alone will bring just that. In following Christ's method alone, we will not be losing so many members out the back door as we have now been experiencing within our church in North America. Could it be if Christ's method will give true success that we might have had false success within the way we have been practicing evangelism? When we lose 4 out of every 5 people we baptize that gives us a false sense of success. Up front it looks good, but six months later what are the results. Real success is retaining all five that we baptize and if we practice true discipleship those five that we baptize will turn into 10 or 20 in the very near future because they win others.

Discipleship brings in people within the church that have a greater belief structure of what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist in today's world. That is why the discipleship model within the Mission Driven Church is so important. Disciples make disciples! When we disciple people into the church they will become active members in reaching the lost and they tend to want to move out of the pews and into the community to reach the lost.

In a recent evangelistic outreach in one of our larger cities in the United States one church baptized around 50 new members. When they went looking for those they had baptized 6 months later they found that none of the recent baptized members were attending the church anymore. This is no longer an exception to the rule, this is now the norm within North America.

In a recent meeting at one Maritime Church, a member in our Conference said "the problem in our church is not the empty pews... it's the ones that are filled." I think this saying says much for us as a church today. How can we become a Mission Driven Church in the Maritime Conference to really have an impact in reaching as many as we can outside of our church doors with the Three Angels Message? Let us begin to look at what we can do to be a more loving and outreach-oriented church as every church within our Conference begins their Master Plan for a Mission Driven Church. ■

Paul Llewellyn, President  
Maritime Conference

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

geant et gagnant leur confiance. Puis il leur disait:

« Suivez-moi. » » MG 118.3

Le pasteur Schwarz m'a fait remarquer récemment que cette citation provient du ministère de la guérison. Si nous voulons la guérison au sein de notre propre église, suivre la méthode du Christ apportera justement cela. En suivant la méthode du Christ, nous ne perdrons plus autant de membres par la porte de derrière comme nous nous en faisons encore la malheureuse expérience dans notre église en Amérique du Nord. Est-il possible, si la méthode du Christ doit donner le vrai succès, que nous aurions pu avoir de faux succès par la façon dont nous avons jusqu'ici pratiqué l'évangélisation? Lorsque nous perdons 4 personnes sur 5 que nous baptisons, cela nous donne un faux sentiment de succès. D'entrée de jeu, ça a l'air bien, mais six mois plus tard, quels sont les résultats. Le vrai succès, c'est de retenir les cinq personnes que nous baptisons et si nous pratiquons le vrai discipulat, ces cinq personnes que nous baptisons deviendront 10 ou 20 dans un proche avenir parce qu'elles en gagneront d'autres.

Le discipulat fait entrer dans l'église des personnes qui ont une plus profonde structure de croyance au sujet de ce que cela signifie d'être un Adventiste du Septième Jour dans le monde d'aujourd'hui. C'est pourquoi le modèle du discipulat au sein de l'Église Missionnaire est si important. Les disciples font des disciples! Quand nous ferons que les personnes qui se joignent à l'église soient des disciples, ils deviendront des membres actifs pour atteindre les perdus et ils auront tendance à vouloir sortir des bancs pour aller dans la communauté afin d'atteindre les perdus.

Lors d'une récente évangélisation dans l'une de nos grandes villes aux États-Unis, on a baptisé une cinquantaine de nouveaux membres. Quand ils sont allés à la recherche de ceux qu'ils avaient baptisés 6 mois plus tard, ils ont découvert qu'aucun des membres baptisés récemment ne fréquentait l'église. Ce n'est plus une exception à la règle, c'est maintenant la norme en Amérique du Nord.

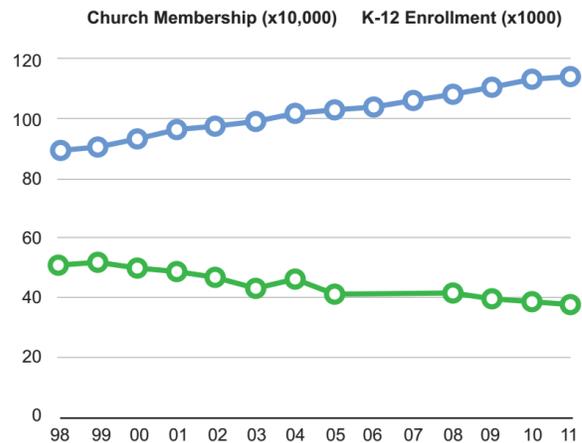
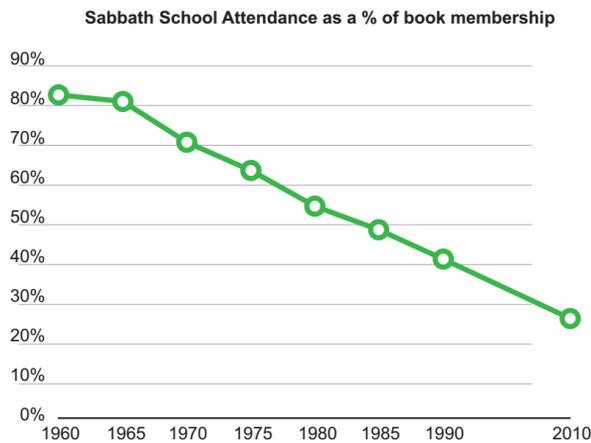
Lors d'une réunion tenue récemment dans une église des Maritimes, un membre de notre Fédération a déclaré que « le problème dans notre église n'est pas les bancs vides... ce sont ceux qui sont remplis. » Je pense que ce dicton en dit long pour nous en tant qu'église aujourd'hui. Comment pouvons-nous devenir une Église Orientée Mission dans la Fédération Maritime afin de vraiment avoir un impact en atteignant le plus grand nombre possible de personnes à l'extérieur de nos portes d'église avec le Message des Trois Anges? Commentons par examiner ce que nous pouvons faire pour être une église plus aimante et tournée vers l'extérieur, tandis que chaque église de notre Fédération met en place son plan directeur pour une Église Orientée Mission. ■

Paul Llewellyn, President  
Conférence Maritime  
Translation par Guy Lacourse



The statistical report on our North American Church states the following internal challenges, but these are exactly what our Conference struggles with, as well.

- The steady increase in the number of schools experiencing declining enrollment and financial insolvency. (As noted in the graph below.)
- The steady flow of youth and young adults from a Church that appears to be more and more irrelevant to them.
- An aging Church with half of the pastors and administrators within a few years of potential retirement and with a weak succession plan in place.
- A downward trajectory in terms of the involvement of the Church in the community and the public's lack of awareness of Adventism in the message that it has to offer them.
- The gradual demise of Sabbath School — the one unifying curriculum of our Church. (As noted in the graph below.)



### Suggested Criteria for Mission-driven Organizations of Excellence

#### STANDARD ONE: Build Team

- 1a. **SPIRITUAL climate:** At least once a year, we measure our spiritual climate in a no-name survey to ensure that our church organization maintains a Christ-like spirit. We use the results to plan inspiring worship services and other experiences that members of the organization rate as unusually effective.
- 1b. **RELATIONAL health:** At least once a year, we conduct a no-name survey of our board and/or members to measure the extent to which positive attitudes exist within our church organization. We then use the results to continuously improve relational health.
- 1c. **INFORMED guidance:** In addition to inspired writings, we use data to monitor trends and issues in the territory we serve and within our church family. Our team relies both on research and inspired writings to help us make enlightened decisions.

**Standard Two: Agree on Mission, Vision, and Priorities**

- 2a. **MISSION pervasive:** All our board members and most of our members and staff know our mission statement from memory. It is on our church bulletins, appears throughout the church, and is emphasized regularly in church services.
- 2b. **VISION widely embraced:** Within the past year or two, our board and staff come together in visioning sessions and agree upon the “picture” they’d like our church to become within the next “x” years.
- 2c. **PRIORITIES set:** Just about all our officers and staff know the top three priorities of our church organization for this year. Our church leadership has consulted NAD’s five REACH core values for ideas in setting these priorities.

**Standard Three: Strategy in Writing**

- 3a. **STRATEGY written and unwritten:** Our board uses a concise, written strategy updated every year—and creates a short version for all our constituents. We make sure strategy is a key board agenda item that guides operations!
- 3b. **ANNUAL PLANS in place:** Every year, each office and officer submits the top three OUT-COMES (not just activities) it plans to accomplish for the year. These annual roadmaps, when approved by the board, inform the annual budgeting process.

**Standard Four: Implement Your Strategy**

- 4a. **LEADER DEVELOPMENT organized:** Our administrators, church pastor(s) and church officers have sufficient orientation, training, and resources to be highly successful in their work. Each has a coach and feels strong church-wide support.
- 4b. **COLLABORATION nurtured:** Our various church ministries and departments work together very closely. We work as one team on such whole-church initiatives such as community outreach, evangelism, and discipleship. We work actively to abolish silos.
- 4c. **ASSESSMENT and follow-through:** We put systems in place to ensure that every part of our church executes our strategy with excellence. We hold ourselves accountable for exceeding the expectations of those we serve—without excuses.

**Standard Five: Create Culture**

- 5a. **CONTINUOUS TRANSFORMATION:** Our mission and excellence journey never stops. We carefully examine our practices—learning new ways to excel. We research our church’s impact in order to know how well we’re accomplishing our mission.
- 5b. **CITATIONS OF EXCELLENCE:** We’ve earned a reputation throughout the North American Division as an outstanding church. We keep this reputation regardless of who serves as our pastor. Many churches routinely ask about our successes so they can also learn and grow.

*Some Material Adapted from: NAD 2020 Vision Report*

May Jesus bring us together with accountability to heal our “bitter draught” and purify the hearts of this Conference, so we can be on fire for our Lord and Saviour as we minister to our neighbors, REACHING for His Kingdom with the CHRIST-CENTERED message of HOPE and WHOLENESS. This is my prayer...

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

“When a man breathes an intensely earnest prayer to God, there is in that intensity and earnestness a pledge from God that He is about to answer that prayer exceeding abundantly” EGW, Prayer, 72



## Treasury Report

Ed Sharpe, Treasurer

We ended 2017 with a 4.66% increase in tithe from the previous year, breaking the \$2,000,000 barrier for the first time in our history. As a result we anticipate ending 2017 with a modest surplus. Our General Conference Auditors are actually here in the office this week as I write this.

For the first time since 1974 our Sabbath School lessons are on Stewardship in all of its various facets. We have been praying for over a year for a sense of fairness, honesty, and generosity as concerns our tithe faithfulness in our members; no doubt this has contributed to our surplus in spite of our hiring two additional district pastors during 2017.

We are thankful to God that as of February 28, 2018 our tithe is running \$46,000 and 27.56% ahead of the same time last year.

But the financial good news is dampened somewhat by the knowledge that *some* members feel they can direct tithe funds wherever they choose, even for very personal projects. A friend of mine once shared a very interesting comment

“Believe ye receive the things you ask for, and you shall have them,” [said the angel.]

EGW, Early Writings, 73

on Malachi 3:8 where we find God asking the question, “Will a man rob God?” Notice the use of the word “rob,” rather than “steal.” If someone steals from us, as happened to Treva and me during campmeeting last year, they come when no one is at home. In some cases, depending on where the theft took place, we may not even be aware that something is missing. But when we are robbed we are confronted by the thief who boldly gets right in our face, usually threatening us with violence if we do not co-operate with his plan for our possessions.

Dear one, are you guilty of threatening God with violence by playing the part of the robber in the Malachi passage? Are you prepared to stand before God one day and try to defend your position on returning a faithful tithe to the storehouse as is so plainly indicated in scripture, when God has given us so much? Seeing tithe partnership with God as optional is a North American problem; God does deserve better. Do not deprive yourself of the blessings God has promised if you are willing to trust Him with your finances. ■

For those interested in the pricing for meals and accommodations during campmeeting at Camp Pugwash, this information is found on page 22. Contact Jullie Bannister for booking accommodations and more information at [info@maritimesda.com](mailto:info@maritimesda.com) or 506.857.8722 Ext 201. ■

### NEW!

#### *Online Giving Debit now available*

You can now make OnLine donations with a Visa Debit or MasterCard Debit card. (This is not the regular bank debit card.) This saves credit card fees, 70% of which are paid for by the Conference, 20% by NAD/GC, and 10% by the Union (SDACC). If you are already an Online Giving user simply add your Visa or MasterCard debit card information to your profile and choose it when making an Online donation. If you have any questions call Ed Sharpe at (506) 857-8722, x205.

# Bouctouche Company Health Outreach

by Pastor Guy Lacourse

Bouctouche is thriving in its new building. This winter the Bouctouche Company is having different health related activities with Rudy Davis, giving monthly conferences and some of our dear sisters giving cooking classes. People are enjoying it and engage in conversations with one another. Both young and old were particularly interested in the health conferences where topics like stress management, good skin health and how to have good blood for good health were presented.



The cooking classes, two per week for six continuous weeks, attract diverse people, but mostly retired persons since the classes are given Monday and Tuesday mornings.

Plans are made to have night classes soon. As the pastor, I had the privilege to taste the product of their hard work and I can honestly say that it was delicious! Each week, people learn how to cook one item of a three-course meal. They also get useful information through a short powerpoint presentation. The best part being, of course, the time when they all sit and eat! Participants say that they feel like in a family with the other participants and church members, exchanging hugs and good laughs.

Having a central place, with enough equipment to minister to people adequately was important for the Bouctouche Co. The new building and how it was fitted helps them reach out the way they know will foster healthy relationships. After all, what we ultimately want is for each to develop a healthy and saving relationship with God and with thy neighbor. ■

“The great victories gained for the cause of God are gained in the audience chamber with God.” EGW, Gospel Workers, 259



**Education**

Teresa Ferreira, Superintendent

Sandy Lake has been very busy with their program. I will let them fill you in on all the details. They will have news for us in the next issue. ■

**News From Sandy Lake Academy**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- March 12-16 March Break
- March 23-25 Jesus to the Nations Conference
- March 29 Constituency Meeting
- April 4-8 Pine Tree Academy Music Clinic
- May 31 Early Registration Deadline
- June 15 Graduation Vespers (7pm)
- June 16 Spring Concert
- June 17 Graduation Ceremony (1pm)

Scholarship forms are on pages 30 & 31.

**Sandy Lake Academy Offering  
April 28, 2018**

Sandy Lake Academy will be the recipient of the Maritime Conference Advance offering on April 28.

As the only Seventh-day Adventist school in the Maritimes, Sandy Lake Academy is providing a vital ministry for our youth and their families. Students are immersed in a strong academic program with solid Christian standards and are guided by dedicated Christian teachers and dorm parents.

Your sacrificial giving is crucial to enable Sandy Lake Academy to continue its ministry to our students and their families—daily impacting their lives for Christ. Your generous donations are always welcome and needed.

Please give generously! Thank you. ■

## Sandy Lake Academy

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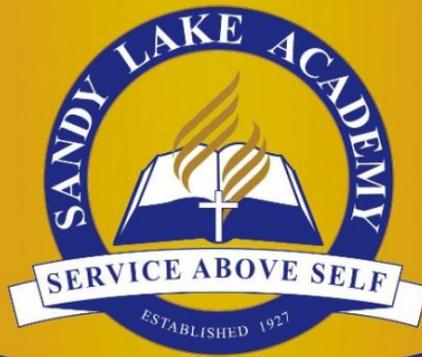


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I will contend with him who contends with you, And I will save your children.  
Isa 49:25

# SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS WEEKEND

JUNE 1-3, 2018

CAMP PUGWASH

with

**James Rafferty**

*"Righteousness by  
Faith in the Book  
of Revelation"*

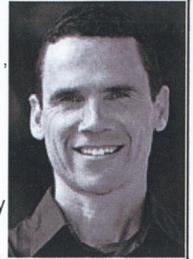
<b>Friday Night:</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Sabbath Morning:</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>
<b>Sabbath Afternoon:</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
<b>Sabbath Night:</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
	<b>10:45 am</b>

Cost is \$50 per person or \$100 maximum for family of 2 or more if registered by May 15; from May 16 on cost is \$65/\$130. **Pastor Jonathan Gascoyne is coming to speak to the youth "The Power of Weakness"-\$30 per person.** There is a program for children age 6-12. Let us know how many children and their age that are coming. We do need for you to register and let us know how many people plan to eat in the cafeteria, so the dietary staff can plan the simple meals. We are not able to accommodate special dietary needs, come prepared.

Submit registration form and monies **by May 27, 2018** to the Maritime Conference office. Contact Jullie Bannister at [info@maritimesda.com](mailto:info@maritimesda.com) or fax 506-853-7368 or phone 506-857-8722 Ext 201.

## Meet James Rafferty

James Rafferty became a follower of Jesus Christ at 21, and sensed early on God's call to preach the good news of a crucified and risen Savior. Since that initial urging the Holy Spirit has opened doors for James to share God's incomparable love around the world. James has now settled into discipleship ministry, as co-director of Light Bearers, and associate pastor of the Fall Creek Adventist Church.



## Meet Jonathan Gascoyne Youth Speaker

Jonathan Gascoyne has served as pastor and corrections chaplain in Newfoundland for the last 5 years. He attended school at Kingsway College. During those teen years, it appeared to some that Jonathan's life was headed down the wrong path. Yet his life journey is a testament of what God is able to do in a person's life, if they would just stop running from Him and surrender to His amazing love.



## Risë Rafferty, RDN

Risë loves the health message and takes pleasure in seeing people thrive by the application of its principles. Her research and down-to-earth writing and speaking style allow her to offer up the health message in both an intelligent and accessible manner. She writes Health Nuggets for the Light Bearers newsletter and addresses health issues on 3ABN.





**Children's Ministries**

Lorie Neily, Director

I would like to send a "cheery" hello to all in the conference. Spring is just around the corner and with that comes the promise of new beginnings and the beautiful cycle of life that God provides in nature. A busy time is coming as the days go by and we approach special dates in the calendar.

**Catch the Wave with Jesus**

A special weekend is planned for children 6-12 years of age during our annual Spiritual Emphasis weekend June 1-3.

**Campmeeting 2018**

I am looking forward to seeing everyone again, volunteers and children. Plans for this year are in progress and I am excited because Campmeeting 2018 promises 10 days of spiritual enrichment in our children's lives. If you would like to be a part of the team in the children's divisions or if you have a talent you would like to share, a 15-minute presentation about nature or a spiritual object lesson or music, then please contact me at [lorie.neily@maritimesda.com](mailto:lorie.neily@maritimesda.com) so we can discuss it

and "pencil you in."

**Vacation Bible School**

I have 2 VBS programs, one from last year, *Kids-Ville, Where Jesus loves others through you* and this year's, *Sea of Miracles, where kids get caught by Jesus' love*. They are brand new and ready to go! Just contact me and I will get them to you.

**O.W.L (Only With Love) Newsletter**

Keep a watchful eye "like a hawk" for a newsletter to arrive in your inbox. In it you will find "a nest" of information with one "egg dedicated to parents, the other "egg" to our children of the conference and another "egg" that will hatch later. Hoot! Hoot! for Jesus, that is what it's all about.

I would like to invite everyone to pray earnestly for our children and parents/guardians and all those that are influencing our children in a spiritual way. Children, God's littlest lambs are so much in need of tender love, kindness and protection even more now. Please include the little ones that are in war torn regions of the world and those in your neighbourhoods that may not have all that they need, including emotional support. ■

✂\*\*\*\*\*

*Righteousness by Faith in the Book of Revelation*

Registration Form      **Spiritual Emphasis Weekend**      **June 1-3, 2018**      **Camp Pugwash**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ # **YOUTH \$30.00 each** (please register too)

**Cost: \$50 per person or \$100 maximum for family of 2 or more, if registered by May 15.**

\_\_\_\_\_ # of children age **6-12** (no additional charge/but complete consent form with names/ages/allergies/photos)

**Meals:** \_\_\_\_\_ # in family requesting meals for weekend      or      just need this # per meal selected:

**Accommodation Request:**

**Cabin:**    \_\_\_ **Single** (room alone)  
              \_\_\_ **Double**, Roommate \_\_\_\_\_  
              \_\_\_ **Family cabin**, \_\_\_\_\_ # in immediate family

**Other:**    \_\_\_ **Trailer site** – electrical only (playground field)  
              \_\_\_ **Seasonal: Cabin #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Trailer #** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Sab Breakfast      \_\_\_ Sun Breakfast  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sab Lunch            \_\_\_ Sun Sack Snack  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sab Supper

(Those staying in cabins will need to bring bedding and \*portable heaters {\*if you have one, as we have a limited supply at camp}.)

**Registration Deadline: May 27, 2018**      **Registering after May 15 on: cost is \$65/\$130.**

**Return completed form to: Maritime Conference, 121 Salisbury Rd, Moncton NB E1E 1A6**

**Email: [info@maritimesda.com](mailto:info@maritimesda.com) or Fax: 506.853.7368**



**Pathfinder Ministries**  
Bill Harrington, Director

There is so much materials available to get you started on your road to having a great Pathfinder or Adventurer club in your church, get in touch with me if you need help by email at harringtonhaven@bellaliant.net. ■

### Maritime Camporees:

The spring camporee is set for May 18-20, 2018 at Camp Pugwash NS.

September: New River Beach Park NB



This is a picture of **Junior Camp in 1960.**

Bill Harrington is wondering if someone can fill in the names that he doesn't know...or the ones he has wrong...

Front row from right to left: Glen Sands, #2?, Donald Boltz, Dennis Boltz, #5?, #6?, #7?, Ian Martin, #9?  
Back row from right to left: Bill Harrington, Harry McCrae, #3?, #4?, #5?, Frank Corkum, Doug Price, #8?, #9?



## Youth

Ricky Schwarz, Director

Do you know what it is like to struggle with something? I am certain that you do. Really, what young person today isn't struggling with multiple things? Things like anxiety, depression, sexual abuse, addictions, and the list goes on and on. Yet, often times the message that has been unintentionally communicated by the church is that if you are struggling with sins and temptations, then something is seriously wrong with you. If your life isn't perfect, then you must not be a "True Christian." Sadly, many a follower of Jesus Christ has, in despair, forsaken Christ because they feel they are just too weak, and no matter how hard they try they will never be strong enough to be "True Christians."

The amazing news throughout all Scripture is that the "True Christians" of the Bible all struggled. King David and Solomon struggled with lust, Daniel and Samson struggled with physical mutilation; Israel struggled with diet; Mary Magdalene struggled with being sexually abused by a church and family member; Jonah struggled with un-forgiveness; John the Beloved struggled with selfishness, pride, and anger; Job struggled with financial loss; Jacob struggled with family brokenness; and to top the list, Jesus also struggled emotionally, mentally, and physically. Amazingly though, God didn't give up on them nor reject them. Thus, you can have full confidence that He won't turn His back on you either! Rather, through their struggles all these Bible heroes learned what was the key to true Christian success. The Apostle Paul revealed that secret to the church of Corinth, which was a church that knew all about struggles. He writes, ***"My grace is enough for you: for where there is weakness, My power is shown the more completely. Therefore, I have cheerfully made up my mind to be proud of my weaknesses, because they mean a deeper experience of the power of Christ. I can even enjoy weaknesses, suffering, privations, persecutions and difficulties for Christ's sake. For my very weakness makes me strong in Him"*** (2 Corinthians 12:9, 10 PHILIPS).

It is this Biblical truth that we desire to become your reality! This is why we have entitled this year's Youth Spiritual Emphasis Weekend at Pugwash, "The Power of Weakness!" This June 1-3 we are going to stop hiding behind our Christian masks of perfection and be vulnerable. Why? Because Jesus has set the example of vulnerability for His followers to follow. He showed in His life and death that vulnerability is not a weakness, like many of us have come to believe, but rather it is a strength.

This year's guest speaker, Pastor Jonathan Gascoyne from the Newfoundland Conference, will be sharing three Holy Spirit inspired messages entitled, "My Struggles."

Friday night we will be talking about our physical struggles. Sabbath for church we will transition into looking at our emotional struggles, and finally we will close out the Sabbath in the evening with a presentation on our mental struggles. In between each talk we will be sprinkling in some group discussions and Bible studies. You definitely won't want to miss one meeting! It is our desire that this weekend will not only be honest about our struggles, but will more importantly, help you see the God who is with you in your struggles, and is desiring to be your strength. We hope you will be strengthened, encouraged, inspired, and challenged into a deeper and more power-filled friendship with Jesus Christ. Please make plans to join us June 1-3 at Pugwash as we, as a community of believers, find hope and healing in the beautifully practical message of the Gospel. Join us as we discover, "The Power of Weakness!" ■



When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him. Isa. 59:19



## Conflict Provides Opportunities

Pastor Dave Hamilton

*“He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)*

Conflict robs us of time, energy, money, and opportunities in ministry. Worst of all, it can destroy our Christian witness. When believers are embroiled in disagreement or estranged from one another, few people will pay attention when we try to talk with them about the reconciling love of Jesus Christ.

But the opposite is also true. When Christians learn to be peacemakers, they can turn conflict into an opportunity to strengthen relationships, preserve valuable resources, and make their lives a testimony to the love and power of Christ.

In his book *The Peacemaker*, Ken Sande, developed what he refers to as “The Slippery Slope” of conflict. There are three basic ways that people respond to conflict. These responses can be arranged on a curve that resembles a hill (see Figure 1). On the left slope of the hill we find the **escape** responses to conflict. On the right side are the **attack** responses. And in the center, or top of the hill, we find the **peacemaking** responses taught in the Bible.

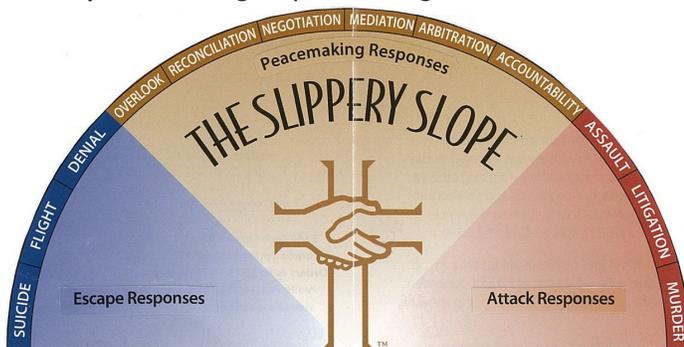


Figure 1: The Slippery Slope

### ESCAPE RESPONSES

People tend to use escape responses when they are more interested in avoiding unpleasant people or situations than in resolving differences. This attitude is common within the church, because some Christians believe that ALL conflict is wrong. They believe that to be a good Christian, we should always agree, and they usually do one of two things to escape from conflict.

#### **Denial**

One way to escape from a conflict is to pretend that it doesn't exist. Or, if we cannot deny that the conflict exists, we simply refuse to do what should be done to resolve a conflict properly. This response brings only temporary relief and usually makes matter worse. For example, Eli denied the seriousness of his sons' sin (1 Samuel 2:22-25). He rebuked his sons but failed to remove them from serving as priests.

#### **Flight (Run Away)**

Another way to escape is to run away. This may include leaving the house, ending a friendship, quitting a job, filing

for divorce, staying at home when someone you don't like is at church, or eventually changing churches. In most cases, running away only postpones finding a proper solution to a problem. For example, when Hagar ran away from Sarai in Genesis 16:6-8.

#### **Suicide**

In extreme cases some people may seek to escape conflict by attempting to take their own lives. For example, when King Saul committed suicide in 1 Samuel 31:1-4. Suicide is never the right way to deal with conflict. Tragically, however, suicide has become the third or fourth leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States, partly because so many children have never learned to deal with conflict in a constructive way.

### ATTACK RESPONSES

The three responses on the right side of the slippery slope are attack responses. These responses to conflict are used by people who are more interested in winning a conflict than in preserving a relationship. Attack responses are typically used by people who are strong willed and self-confident. But not always. Sometimes attack responses are used by people who feel weak, fearful, insecure, or vulnerable. Whatever the motive, these responses are directed at bringing as much pressure to bear on opponents as is necessary to eliminate their opposition.

#### **Assault (Verbal or Physical)**

They might in extreme cases resort to physical violence, but will often use verbal attacks including gossip and evil surmising in order to damage the other person's reputation. When we respond like this, it always makes things worse. For example, when verbal attacks were used to accuse Stephen of blasphemy (Acts 6:8-15). Let's be sure that as SDA Christians we never attack someone verbally—either to their face or behind their back. If we do, we need to pray and ask Jesus for the courage to confess our sins to the person we've attacked.

#### **Litigation**

Another way to force people to bend to our wishes is to take them to court. Although some conflicts may legitimately be taken before a civil judge (see Acts 24:1-26:32; Rom. 13:1-5) lawsuits usually damage relationships, diminish our Christian witness, and often fail to achieve complete justice. This is why Christians are commanded to make every effort to settle their differences within the church rather than in the civil courts (see 1 Cor. 6:1-8; Matt. 5:25-26).

#### **Murder**

In extreme cases, people may be so desperate to win a dispute that they will try to kill those who oppose them. For example, when Stephen was stoned to death by the counsel (Acts 7:54-58). While most Christians would not actually kill someone, we should never forget that we stand guilty, of murder, in God's eyes when we harbor anger or contempt in our hearts toward others (Matthew 5:21-22).

## PEACEMAKING RESPONSES

None of the escape responses or attack responses will resolve conflict. They will just make matters worse. But the good news is that there are six biblical responses at the top of the diagram called “peacemaking responses” that will bring much honor to God when we use them in our homes, churches and schools.

### Personal Peacemaking Responses

The three to the left of center are biblical ways to resolve conflict “personally” or privately.

#### **Overlook an Offense**

Many conflicts are so minor that they should simply be overlooked. Proverbs 19:11 says, “Those with good sense are slow to anger, and it is their glory to overlook an offense” (NKJV).

Every now and then someone will do something that we really don’t appreciate. Turn it over to Jesus, and let it go.

#### **Reconciliation**

If an offense is too serious to overlook or has damaged the relationship, we need to resolve personal or relational issues through confession, loving correction, and forgiveness.

Matthew 18 says, “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother” (Matt. 18:15). If you find yourself in this situation, don’t talk to everyone else about it—go talk to the person that you think has sinned against you. This is extremely important dear reader.

The great controversy began up in heaven because of one angel, named Lucifer, going to one angel after another and gossiping and slandering God’s character. Let’s not allow Satan’s principles to gain a foothold in our churches through unchecked gossip and evil surmising.

#### **Negotiation**

The third personal peacemaking response is called negotiation.

Even if we successfully resolve relational issues, we may still need to work through material issues related to money, property, or other rights. Philippians 2:4 says, “Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.” (NKJV)

### Assisted Peacemaking Responses

When a conflict cannot be resolved personally (just between you and the other person), God calls us to seek assistance from other believers. The three to the right of center are called “Assisted Peacemaking.”

#### **Mediation**

If two people cannot reach an agreement in private, they should ask one or more objective outside people to meet with them to help them communicate more effectively and explore possible solutions. Matthew 18:16 says, “But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.” (NKJV) These mediators may ask questions and give advice, but they have no authority to force you to accept a particular solution. It should be people who are spiritual, and ideally people that already know about the situation in order to contain the problem to as few people as possible.

#### **Arbitration**

Arbitration is needed when you and the person you are in conflict with cannot come to an agreement on a material issue (such as money or property). The Bible cautions us not to take another church member to court. The apostle Paul

tells us that we should choose one or more arbitrators (leaders within the church) to listen to your arguments and then let them render a binding decision to settle the issue. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 6:1-4 that this is how Christians ought to resolve their legal conflicts with one another.

#### **Accountability**

The third peacemaking response to the right of the top is called accountability. If a person who professes to be a Christian refuses to be reconciled and do what is right, Jesus commands church leaders to lovingly intervene to hold him or her accountable to Scripture and to promote repentance, justice, and forgiveness. Matthew 18:17 says, “And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church.” (NKJV) Removal from church membership is the last step in the process meant to bring individuals to repentance and reconciliation if they will not listen to the one they wronged, or to the church as a body. Direct church involvement is often viewed negatively among Christians today, but when it is done as Jesus instructs—lovingly, redemptively, and restoratively—it can be the key to saving relationships and bringing about justice and peace within the church.

#### **Appeal**

Which side of the “slippery slope” do you naturally slide down? Let’s pray and ask God for discernment and the grace and courage to follow His peacemaking principles.

### CONCLUSION

Conflict provides opportunities to glorify God, to serve others, and to grow to be more like Christ. These opportunities are commended throughout Scripture.

In Micah 6:8 we are told, “He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?” (NKJV)

In Matthew 23:23 Jesus said, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith.” (NKJV)

Notice that in both Micah and Matthew, justice, mercy, and faithfulness are highlighted as being required by our God. As you live out the gospel and make the Lord’s priorities your priorities, you can turn every conflict into a stepping stone to a closer relationship with God and a more fulfilling and fruitful Christian life.

It is my sincere prayer that this series of articles will help us develop a “culture of peace” within our churches so we can effectively share the gospel within our communities, and our local churches can become “safe places” for people to come and worship our amazing Creator! ■

#### **References**

Sande, Ken, *The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflict* (Third Edition), Baker Books, 2004.

Some of the information in this article was taken directly from a brochure entitled “Peacemaking Principles: Responding to Conflict Biblically” Copyright 2009, Peacemaker Ministries.



## Camp Pugwash

Teresa Ferreira, Summer Camp Director

As we study His Word, it is distinctly noted that the Ten Commandments were blue sapphire in colour, hewn straight from the Throne of God. The colour blue represents His Law, which is written in Love.

The Camp theme this year is, "All About Blue Horizons." See poster on page 20. I desire each camper, each staff member to know that God has a plan for their lives, and on their 'horizon' lies the beauty of His Law of Love wrapped around each one of them!

Camp Pugwash is completing the hiring process for this coming summer program. As we look for the best workers to minister to our young people that are being sent to our camp, this is a perfect time to activate our churches and boards to look for community young people that might benefit from coming to Camp Pugwash for Junior or Teen Camp.

We are also looking for more campers that would be able to benefit from our National Camps for the Blind. If your local church knows of visually impaired people that are able to care for themselves, please send those names and contact information on to the Conference office.

Now is the time to start to plan on how many children your church will sponsor to come to camp. ■

### Tentative Dates for Camp Pugwash for 2018:

Camp Open	mid May
Pathfinder Camporee	May 18-20
Spiritual Emphasis	June 1-3
Staff Orientation	June 17-24
Blind Camp	June 24-29
Junior Camp	July 1-8
Teen Camp	July 8-15
Specialty Camp	July 15-20
Workers' Camp	July 16-20
Campmeeting 2018	July 20-28
Couples' Retreat	September 14-16
Health Ministries	September 26-30
Camp Close	mid October



Mark your calendars:

## Women's Conference

October 12 - 13, 2018  
Moncton NB

Our speaker will be **Brenda Rowe**,  
SDACC Women's Ministry Director

More detailed information on registration  
will be shared in the coming months.

Mark your calendars:

## Couples' Retreat

September 14 - 16, 2018  
Pugwash NS

More detailed information on speakers  
and registration will be shared in the  
coming months.

"Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse where are treasured the boundless resources of omnipotence." EGW, Steps to Christ, 94, 95



CAMP PUGWASH

SUMMER 2018

"...and saw the God of Israel. Under His feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself." Exodus 24.10

*all about  
blue  
horizons*

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For Applications Contact: Teresa Ferreira

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WATCH YOUR EMAIL FOR YOUR 2018 SUMMER CAMP CAMPER APPLICATION.**



## Prayer Ministries

Erna McCann, Director

### Daniel Prayer Experiment

How is your prayer life going?

Are you praying more than ever, the same or less?

Do you feel discouraged with prayer? Or that it doesn't "work?"

Would you like to be more inspired to pray?

In my experience, becoming constant in prayer takes practice ... and ... though you may not believe me: lots of prayer ... A little motivation can go a long way, as well, so perhaps you'd like to join me in this Daniel Prayer experiment:

- Pray 3 times daily for one month for 3 things:
  - something personal
  - something for your church
  - something outreach related
- then, when the month is over, choose another three things in those same categories and, again, pray 3 times daily for a month
- repeat!

In case you aren't sure what to pray for, here are some suggestions to get you started:

#### Personal:

- more love for God
- the ability to receive more of the Holy Spirit—Who brings love, joy, peace, patience, etc.
- recognize the voice of God in the silence of my soul
- attitude adjustment
- pure motives
- the gift of repentance
- the faith of Jesus
- true, heart-felt forgiveness
- relationship restoration
- enemies
- the eyes of God so I see others as He does
- strengthening my family's connectedness

#### Church:

- spirit of prayer for all
- removal of everything that hinders the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- children/youth/young adults
- non-attending/former members
- pastor and his family
- conference leaders
- the love of truth
- church leaders
- spirit of generosity
- spiritual discernment
- unity
- richer spiritual focus
- nurturing atmosphere
- enemies

#### Outreach:

- former members
- non-member spouses/children/parents
- government administration (wisdom, love of truth, stand strong against wrong)
- those seeking truth
- community leaders (teachers, doctors, lawyers, pastors, etc.)
- strengthening of God-ordained families
- tearing down of Satan's strongholds, and establishment of things that will benefit society
- new ways to meet community needs

I look forward to hearing your testimonies of this experiment! Feel free to send them to me: [ernajoy.1@gmail.com](mailto:ernajoy.1@gmail.com).

God bless you all! I'm praying for you. ■

#### Come join us:

Daily, from 5-6:00am, or 9-9:30pm by Zoom\* or telephone\*\*.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android.

Or join our weekly prayer and devotional on Thursday mornings from: 5:30-6:30am (personal requests begin at 5:15am) by Zoom\* or telephone\*\*.

THEN, to join a meeting click on the 'Zoom icon', then click on 'Join a Meeting' and type in meeting ID number: 150256885.

Finally, click 'Join', and you will be with us!

\*\* Connecting by telephone: call 1-(647) 558-0588 (Canadian long distant charges apply unless you have a phone plan), and enter meeting ID: 150256885.

**CAMPMEETING 2018****July 20 - July 28, 2018**

Many people are requesting information on the campmeeting speakers earlier in the year. We have been inviting many speakers and have confirmed the following thus far for 2018:

**Shawn Brace**

Shawn Brace pastors and plants churches in Maine. He and his wife, Camille, have three beautiful children: Camden, Acadia, and Winslow. In addition to ministry and lifting up the beauty of Jesus, he loves traveling, reading, running, photography, anything outdoors, and spending time with people. He blogs at [newenglandpastor.net](http://newenglandpastor.net) and can be followed on Twitter @shawnbrace.

**Robert Hayes**

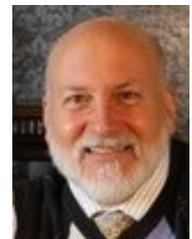
Robert Hayes is pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Palm Coast. As a teenager he made the decision to live a Christian life. As an adult he never forgot the joy he felt when studying the Bible, and had a strong desire to teach what he had learned to others. He also felt the Lord drawing him into full time service, and acted on the vocation and began to study for the ministry. He was mentored by Pastor Louis Torres, formerly a bass player for Bill Haley and the Comets, who himself was called away from a successful secular life by the Lord to a life of service. His greatest desire is to be able to say when Jesus comes in the clouds of glory, "I have finished the work which you have given me to do" and to hear Jesus say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant....enter into the joy of the Lord."

**Francis Douville French Meetings All Campmeeting**

Francis Douville serves as Lead Pastor at Really Living Church in Hamilton Ontario. He and his wife, Tina, joined the church December 2009. Prior to coming to Hamilton, Francis served as an Associate Pastor at the Aldergrove Adventist Church in British Columbia for six years. In the summer of 2000, he began to feel that God was leading him to a different purpose than an athletic therapist in Montreal, and attended Canadian University College (now Burman University) where he completed his undergraduate degree in Religious Studies and has since earned a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry from Andrews University.

**Mike Carducci Youth Speaker**

Michael Carducci, Co-Founder, and Co-Chairman of "Coming Out" Ministries. Michael is a ministry leader addressing his history from living in the Homosexual Culture, and being sexually addicted for over twenty years. Accepting Jesus Christ was the beginning of a discovery of healing, as he learned the Biblical process of cleansing and restoration through a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. Being introduced to God for the first time as Jesus proved His enduring love and dedication, and showing Michael how to live in a world of temptation. Learning the process of true surrender and experiencing peace in his life on a moment by moment basis. Michael shares his tools for overcoming and helps guide others to Christ as he reveals His game plan, for addressing the brokenness of the past, and how to achieve healing through a solid dependence on Jesus Christ.

**Danielle Harrison Youth Speaker**

Introduced to sexual sin at a young age, Danielle Harrison's struggle with same-sex attraction grew deep rooted and served as a conduit into other sin as she matured. In her youth she disregarded authority and went stumbling into a life of open rebellion. Now she knows first-hand what the world really has to offer and the terribly bitter crop it yields. Since she surrendered her life to Jesus, He has been using her story to share the message of Philippians 1:6. Today, Danielle is an international speaker and an Associate Director for 'Coming Out' Ministries, a ministry which unites 3 individuals in sharing their testimonies of freedom from sexual sin and same-sex relationships.

**Tarah-Liz Springer Special Music**

Tarah-Liz Springer came into the world destined to be a music note on the staff of life's journey. Raised in the Seventh-day Adventist faith, the church always gave her opportunities to spread her wings and participate in church services and activities by using her talents for the Lord. Tarah believed that God used music to keep her active in His service. May His name continue to be praised and glorified through this ministry.





## Health Ministries

Stephanie Schwarz, Director

### Oh Let the Sun Shine In!

There is a popular song that says, “You are my sunshine, my only sunshine. You make me happy when skies are grey.” ♪♪ While this is a fictional song about a person, the concept is very true. There is something about the sunshine that just lifts our mood, and makes us happy!

Ecclesiastes 11:7 says, “Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.” God created the sun for our benefit. It is not surprising that recent studies are now showing that as we get older we actually need more sunlight for our eyes. As we get older, our pupils actually gradually get smaller. Because of this, less sunlight reaches key cells in the retina that regulate the circadian rhythm of our body. God designed us with our own internal clock for waking, sleeping, as well as for making certain hormones that are regulated by light and darkness. So when you awake in the morning, open those windows, and let the sun shine in your room, and on your face.

There are so many benefits from sunlight. Sunlight actually kills bacteria and mold, so having our windows open, and letting the sun shine in helps kill bacteria in our homes. Sunlight increases serotonin production. Serotonin helps us feel content, relaxed, and helps us

sleep better at night!

It is recommended that we need at least 15 minutes of sunlight on our bare skin without any sunblock. And now we are starting to see that even more sunlight is needed, and beneficial for us! Try to be out when the sun is not so strong, such as in the morning, and late afternoon or evening. Of course, in the Maritimes, especially in the winter, getting out in the late morning or early afternoon when we can get the most sun is best for us. Remember, even with good things like sunlight, we want to be temperate. Avoiding those things that are bad for us, and using in moderation those things that are good for us. Even though the sun is good for us we don’t want to over-indulge to the point of burning ourselves. If you are light skinned like me, you need less sun, and if you are darker complexioned like my husband, you need more. This week, take at least 15 minutes each day, and enjoy the wonderful sunshine we have been blessed with!

“But for you who fear my name, the sun (Son) of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall” (Malachi 4:2). As the rays of the sun shine on you each day, may it remind you that the Son of righteousness is also shining on you to bring you, energy, joy, healing, and life eternal!

If any church is interested in hosting a health expo or having me come to speak at your church or present health talks, contact me at [health@maritimesda.com](mailto:health@maritimesda.com). ■

Camp Pugwash rental and meal charges for 2018	<b>Camp Pugwash 2018</b>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Seasonal</u>	<u>Trailer</u>
	<u>Rental for:</u>	<u>Campmeeting</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>(May 15-Oct 15)</u>	<u>Storage</u>
	Cabin-Rustic	\$232	\$34	\$599	
	Single/Double Cabin-Rustic	\$260	\$39	\$682	
	Barracks	\$284	\$39	\$764	
	Youth Cabin (sm)	\$310	\$46		
	Youth Cabin (lg)	\$326	\$46		
	Guest Cabin (if available)	\$348	\$51		
	Single Women’s Cabin (if avail)	\$83	\$20		
	Trailer w/electric hookup	\$200	\$39	\$627	
	Paradise	\$326	\$46	\$914	*Grandfathered trailers only
	Trailer Park (new)	\$342	\$48	\$1162	\$217*
	Tents (in designated areas)	\$150	\$21		
	Tent w/electric hookup	\$174	\$30		
	Private Cabin renewal			\$808	
	<b>Meals: Breakfast/Supper \$9.25</b>	<b>Dinner \$10.25</b>	<b>Children under 6 yrs \$6.00</b>	<b>per meal</b>	

# NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES:

## HALIFAX

### *African Heritage Month*

African Heritage Month did not go unnoticed in the Halifax church. Pictured right are the many costumes worn during Sabbath services on February 24. During Sabbath School the superintendent gave an interesting talk on the history of the development of the black churches in Canada.



### *English as a Second Language Class*

The second session of the English as a Second Language class was held at the Halifax church. Attending are 14 students representing 6 countries. Appreciation to all the volunteers! (pictured right)



### *Health Ministries Activities*

Under the capable direction of Natalie Wilson, Health Ministries leader, the Halifax church members were encouraged, if possible, to donate “the gift of life.” What an example of doing good on the Sabbath day! Pictured below is member, Sonya Zemlyak, doing just that.



### *Fed Physically and Spiritually*

Halifax Health Ministries has also been very active in encouraging participation and togetherness. Besides this pictured (below) canoe activity on the Halifax Bay, an exciting trip by boat to Tancook Island, plus other organized activities, were enjoyed by many. Research has shown that people who engage in social events regularly live not only happier, but longer.



[Said the angel,]  
“Press your petitions to the throne, and hold on by strong faith. The promises are sure.”  
EGW, Early Writings, 73

## PERTH-ANDOVER

### *Ten Days of Prayer*

From Jan. 10 to 20, our church participated in Ten Days of Prayer for the first time. All around the world, Adventist churches gathered to pray and seek the renewal of the Holy Spirit. The theme chosen for this year was "A prayer experience with our High Priest." Cynthia Paddock, our prayer leader, guided the nightly sessions, engaging us in songs, prayer, Bible and Spirit of Prophecy readings. Each evening, we studied a different garment of the Old Testament high priest and its symbolism. We concluded every meeting by praying earnestly in small groups. On Sabbath, we shared testimonies and precious promises from the Scriptures. The Lord has touched our hearts and brought unity in our midst and we are grateful. This experience has further taught us that the power rests in prayer and we look forward to being a part of this inspiring initiative next year.

## ST GEORGE

### *Benefit Concert*

As a small church congregation, it is sometimes difficult to find the right approach to effectively reach into the community to meet its needs and, at the same time, to be a light that illuminates God's love in a very real and personal manner.

Just such an opportunity recently presented itself and was acted upon by a handful of talented musicians from the St. George Seventh-day Adventist Church.

It is not uncommon to see fund raising events advertised for families who are faced with expenses related to health care needs. In this community, Brayden, a young 17-year-old, is facing the trauma of a liver transplant. This is the only option offered to the family, as all other possible treatments have been exhausted. For this procedure, he will need to go to Halifax or Toronto. Either way, it will be a financial strain for this family with extra food, travel and lodging expenses that will overextend the family budget.

Feeling a deep desire to assist this family, several of our church members resolved to hold a benefit concert for Brayden and his family. Advertising was done through posters, social media and the newspaper, and on

Saturday evening, February 17, approximately 100 people gathered in the local community center to hear *The Love of God* concert. Featured soloists were Filicia Williams, Julie Cheney, Omarie Battick and Emma Williams. The emcee for the evening was Antoinette Stewart.

This was an exceptional evening of superb gospel music, uplifting Christ and propounding the love of God to a rapt audience. Those in attendance were lavish with their appreciative comments, and a total of \$1,400 was raised for a very worthy project.

We were very pleasantly surprised when the booking clerk for the town hall waived the \$250 rental fee for the concert.

The success of this program serves as an example of how God will direct His people, and also as a humbling motivation to witness how God blesses those who are willing to share their time and talents to extol the limitless virtues of a loving God.

## TRURO

### *Quilting Ministry*

We have many outreach programs in the Adventist church. But the most unusual is the quilting ministry started by David and Jean Streifling. Along with the help of fellow church members who are excellent at quilting, many people have been blessed by receiving a quilt. Since this ministry started in Truro the Streiflings have graciously given these beautiful quilts to families burned out, robbed, sick in hospital or recovering at home, pre-natal class groups, discouraged, death of a spouse or family member, newlyweds and appreciation/caring. Approximately 70 quilts have gladdened the hearts of those who received them. On the back of each quilt Jean has embroidered a Bible verse, letting the receiver know that their quilt was a gift of love from the Truro Seventh-day Adventist Church. If anyone would like to help fund this beautiful outreach ministry or learn more about it, please contact the Streiflings at 902-577-7000.

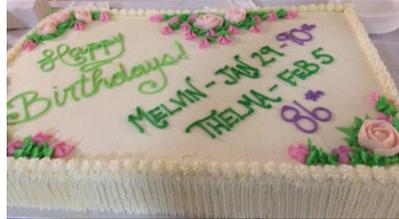
## BAPTISM

**Pacifique Nicholas** was baptized on March 3, 2018 at Halifax church by Pastor Kevin Scott. Pacifique, from Rwanda, is a third year engineering student at Dalhousie University. He says, "Choosing God is the best decision I have ever made, and will ever make in my life and I would like to encourage other young people to follow God for there is no greater joy, peace and fulfillment.



## BIRTHDAYS/HONORARY DEGREE

**Melvin and Thelma Boutilier** celebrated their 90th and 86th birthdays, respectively, with relatives and friends in Halifax NS. Also at this occasion, Melvin was celebrating the bestowal of honorary Doctor of Civil Law by Saint Marys University for his years of humanitarian work in the community. Congratulations to both of these milestones.



## DEDICATION

**Ava Brielle Cherenfant**, daughter of Stuart and Falisha Cherenfant, was dedicated to the Lord in the Halifax church. Pastor Kevin Scott officiated.



## OBITUARIES

**Crews, Madeline Marie—77**, born December 23, 1939 in North Sydney NS, the youngest of Gertrude and George Crews' ten children, and passed peacefully December 19, 2017 in Halifax NS. She studied at Oshawa Missionary College (now Kingsway College) and taught elementary school at Williams Lake BC and Sidney BC. Back in Nova Scotia she did office work at Sambornes Motor Express (now APA) until her retirement in 2001. A woman of devout faith, Madeline led a frugal life personally but was tremendously generous to others. She had been a much appreciated active member of the Halifax SDA Church and spent many summers at the church camp in Pugwash. Madeline enjoyed a good laugh and just a few hours before her passing had a good banter with her son Steve. She will be sadly missed by her sons Stanley (Tracey) of Wainwright AB and Stephen (Catherine) of Timberlea NS; granddaughter Nicole Bradley and a host of relatives and friends, including sister-in-law Shirley Crews, special friends James, Jean and Patricia and nephew Michael who was a frequent caregiver. Predeceased by her parents and all her siblings—William, John, Jesse, Willard, Gerald, Melvin, Ronald and sister Caroline. A celebration of her

life was held December 23, 2017 (her 78th birthday) at the Halifax SDA Church with Pastor Kevin Scott officiating. Donations can be made in Madeline's honour to the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank or the Halifax SDA Church.

**DeBoer, Alma Elsie—84**, passed away at the South Shore Villa, Crapaud PE on Wednesday January 17, 2018. Born in Medicine Hat on March 30, 1933 daughter of the late Daniel and Edna (Heather) Hoff. Wife of Gary DeBoer Sr., South Shore Villa; mother of Gary (Eva) DeBoer Jr., Sault Ste Marie ON; Dwayne-deceased, and Kirk (Wendy-Sue) DeBoer, Stanchel PE. Grandmother to Shiloh Shuman, Seattle WA; Stephanie (Matt) Kendrick, Kaitlin (Ryan)



DeBoer, Sault Ste Marie ON; Ryan and Tyler DeBoer, Stanchel PE. Great grandmother to Leah and Avery Kendrick and Ella White, Sault Ste Marie ON. Sister of Bill (Betty) Hoff, Medicine Hat AB and predeceased by her sister Rose (Gene) Begus. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

**Finney, Cecil F -67**, passed away on Saturday, June 10, 2017, at the Cape Breton Regional Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Born in North Sydney, he was the son of the late Cecil and Edena (Jessome) Finney. Cecil was a carpenter by trade and worked with Sydney Millwork Ltd. in Sydney for 23 years. He enjoyed being outdoors with his family and friends and was an avid fisherman. Cecil was a happy, easy going man with a great sense of humour and the ability to make people laugh. He is survived by his wife, Angie (Cox) Finney; his three children, Carolyn Finney (Jeff), Fonthill ON; Ed (Amy) Finney, Halifax and James Finney, St. Catharines ON; eight grandchildren, Brandon, Danny, Karl, Hannah, Ronny, Tessa, Tanner and Emma, and two great grandchildren, Brayden and Declan. Also by his seven siblings, Joan Soper, Victoria, BC Janet Finney, Millville, Danny (Bernadette) Finney, Mary (Kenny) Jackson, Stephen (Carolyn) Finney, all of Long Island, Sara (John) MacLean, Beaverbank NS and Susan (Brian) Gear, Alder Point; many nieces and nephews; by his special pets, Capser, Sheena and Tiger, and by his in-laws, the Cox family of North Sydney. Besides his parents, Cecil was predeceased by his mother-in-law, Shirley Cox; father-in-law, Freeman Cox, and by his faithful fishing buddy, his dog Storm.



**Joyce, Dorothy Anne -94**, of Kentville NS, passed away on January 15, 2018 in the Orchard Court Nursing Home. Born in London, England, she was the daughter of the late Cyril and Nora (Barnes) Topp. Dorothy was the last surviving member of her immediate family. During World War II, she was a member of the Women's Auxillary Air Force (RAF) in Preswick, Scotland and England. In 1955, Dorothy immigrated to Canada. There she was a member of the Canadian Girl Guide Association where she acted as District Commissioner for the Dartmouth area. For 18 years, Dorothy was an instructor of Elderobics for seniors. She was a dedicated member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in New Minas as well as a past member of the board committee. Dorothy is survived by her sons Douglas (Laura) Joyce of Bishopville/Hantsport; Peter (Joanne) Joyce of Lake Country BC; daughter Susan Power of Airdrie AB; 7 grandchildren (Kelley (Gerald Wright) Joyce of Cambridge; David (Cindy) Joyce of Aylesford; Terry (Coleen) Joyce of Kelowna BC; Christian (Lisa) Joyce of Kelowna BC; Pamela (Marty) Smith of Airdrie AB; Tim Power of Calgary AB and Michael Power of Calgary AB.) She was predeceased by her loving husband Ernest Joyce; brothers Douglas Topp and Ronnie Topp.



**Naugler, Ruth Arleen -96**, of Bridgewater, formerly of Hebb's Cross, passed away December 5, 2017 in Hillside Pines Home for special care, Bridgewater NS. Born March 15, 1921 in Hebb's Cross, she was a daughter of the late Edward and Elsie (Lohnes) Stewart. Surviving are her sons Richard (Corvelle), Conquerall Mills, Ronald (Linda), Hebb's Cross; sister Evelyn Zwicker; brother Lewis; grandchildren Kirk, Angela, Jacqueline; great-grandchildren Evan, Vanessa, Eric, Brooklyn, Brenna, Braxton, Mackelty, Angus; great-great-grandson Logan. She was predeceased by her husband John; brothers Cyril, Merrill, Douglas; sisters Vera Nowe, Helen Bollivar, Margaret Bollivar, Doris Bollivar.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Halifax church celebrated with a Christmas program on Dec. 16, 2017. Organizer, Sonya Zemlyak, aimed to get as many people involved as possible (ages 5-98), and with the church choir performing, this was realized.



Pictured (far inset) Katya McBeth and Dihlan Wilson; (at left) Katya and sister Heidi; (below) Rita Hack playing the harmonica accompanied by her son Bill Gay.

Truro and New Glasgow churches celebrated the *Tell Me the Story of Jesus Christmas* program on December 23. These two churches have been celebrating the Christmas season with a variety of stories, poems, skits, and special music provided by church members for a number of years now. In 2016 we celebrated in Truro and 2017 in New Glasgow. The highlight this year was the three young children of our Pastor (David Hamilton), Nathan, Rebecca and Andrew plus their mom (Cheryl). They sang, played the piano and guitar. Also enjoyed a solo by our new member, Corina Lotca and a duet by David and Jean Streifling. Following the program we all enjoyed a delicious fellowship meal and spent time catching up on family and friends since our last program.

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

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

Halifax and Dartmouth churches hosted a farewell service and meal for their beloved Pastor Kevin Scott and his wife Cindy. Pastor Scott preached his last sermon for these two churches on this day, March 10, 2018. The weather forecast sounded anything but promising but it turned out to be a most beautiful day enabling a very large number to attend. Those who spoke words of tribute mentioned the following: How he kept his promise of holding two evangelistic meetings per year; his punctuality at all church functions; his amazing organization; his professionalism and pleasantness in chairing church and school meetings; his inspiring Biblical sermons; his loving care for his flock; the many baptisms; his willingness to use his expertise and take responsibility for replacing the roof at Sandy Lake Academy thus saving thousand of dollars. The list could go on and on! It was also emphasized that many of his accomplishments were possible because of his wife Cindy's faithful support. A beautiful photo album depicting the different activities involving the pastor and members was created by Dartmouth member

Lori Bowdridge. (Halifax church had previously presented Pastor Scott with a Geneva Bible as well as a special card made by head elder Sara MacLean and signed by many church members. Pictured below.)

The following song, written by Dean Rawlines, and sung so beautifully by Bill Gay and Sylvia Gallant, expressed the sentiments of much that was said by those present: "No more goodbyes, goodbyes are always, but we will meet again. Very soon we'll stand on the other side forever. I know it had to be this way; how I wish that you could stay. You mean so much to everyone, from now until we first begun. No more sadness, no more tears, no more goodbyes, time is near. We'll keep you close in our hearts, even when we are far apart. Time and miles will have their way, but we'll always have today."



*"GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE."*  
MARK 16:15

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 Reaching the non-Christian audience who are searching for truth. Available online at the website, or Roku TV, SDA Radio APP and YouTube.

Perth-Andover church received a blessing by participating in the annual ADRA appeal in November of last year. Local businesses were solicited and we also went door to door in the community. This yearly appeal was a great opportunity to meet new friends and to represent our church. Many were eager to support ADRA's compassionate work. We thank God for every heart that was touched to give towards this worthy cause. ■

"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."  
 Martin Luther

## Spring Prayer Retreat

May 24-27, 2018

Cost: \$75.00 per person if paid by May 9<sup>th</sup>  
\$125.00 after May 10<sup>th</sup> (US\$)

Families Welcome, children 12 & under are FREE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age group: 13-25 26-40 41-60 61+

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (print clearly)  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any special needs, allergies or gluten free:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Names, ages and gender of children attending:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Roommate/s:  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Make cheque payable to:

NNEC Prayer Retreat

Send to: Christine Penney

147 Ellis River Rd,

Rumford, ME 04276

(payment must accompany registration form)

Housing questions: [thankfl@roadrunner.com](mailto:thankfl@roadrunner.com)

For more info. contact Paula Roeloffs at

[paula.roeloffs@gmail.com](mailto:paula.roeloffs@gmail.com) or 802-989-0909.

## Spring Prayer Retreat

May 24-27, 2018

*A Prayer Retreat Experience for the  
Whole Family!*

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE  
PRAYER MINISTRIES PRESENTS;

## “PARTNERING WITH DIVINITY”



*“...for by these He has granted to us  
His precious and magnificent  
promises, so that by them you may  
become partakers of the divine  
nature....”*

2 Peter 1: 4

“I know  
not  
the way  
God  
leads me,  
but  
well do  
I know  
my  
Guide.”  
Martin Luther

**Be a student missionary this summer**

**WHEN:** This Summer (10-12 Weeks)

**WHO:** Youth, Ages 16+

- Missionary service in Canada
- A team-setting environment
- Experience praying for people and sharing literature about Jesus
- Food, accommodation & transportation is provided
- Additional scholarships for students attending Canadian Adventist schools

For more information, please contact us to receive a program handbook.

[mail@canadayouthchallenge.com](mailto:mail@canadayouthchallenge.com) • (905) 576-6631  
[CanadaYouthChallenge.com](http://CanadaYouthChallenge.com)

**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](mailto: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 **June 1, 2018.**

**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](http://www.maritimesda.com) and is the easiest way to view

**HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?**

Please be sure to let your church clerk know if your address has changed or will be changing. This helps to keep our records up-to-date, as well as ensuring that you will continue to receive the Messenger and Adventist World magazines. If you're not receiving these magazines, please contact your clerk, or Jullie Bannister at the conference office by Phone 506.857.8722 Ext 201, Fax 506.853.7368 or Email [info@maritimesda.com](mailto:info@maritimesda.com).

**MARITIME CONFERENCE CALENDAR 2018**

<b>March</b>	Women in the Church Focus	
Mar. 17	Disabilities Awareness Sabbath	
Mar. 17	Day of Hope	
Mar. 18	AGM/FSR/Visioning Meeting	Moncton Church
Mar. 23-25	Jesus to the Nations Conference	SLA
Mar. 24	ARM Safety Sabbath	
Mar. 24	Maritime Advance	Offering
Mar. 31	NAD Evangelism	Offering
Mar. 31	13th Sabbath-Inter-America Division	Offering
<b>April</b>	Stewardship Focus	
Apr. 7	Missionary Magazines Promotion	
Apr. 9	Clerk Statistical Report Due	Conference
Apr. 14	Stewardship Sabbath	
Apr. 14	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
Apr. 14	Cdn Christian Record Services	Offering
Apr. 21	Literature Evangelism Sabbath	
Apr. 26	James Rafferty Seminar 10% off Registration Deadline	
Apr. 28	Education Sabbath	
Apr. 28	Sandy Lake Academy	Offering
Apr.	Summer Camp Registration Forms	
<b>May</b>	Community Services Focus	
May 5	Community Services Sabbath	
May 6	Conference Board of Directors	Conference
May 12	Youth Sabbath	
May 12	Disaster/Famine Relief	Offering
May 18-20	Pathfinder Camporee	Camp Pugwash
May 19	Single Adults Sabbath	
May 19	SS & Church Attendance Count to be taken	
May 22	James Rafferty Seminar Registration Deadline	
May 26	Deaf Ministries	
May 26	Maritime Advance	Offering
<b>June</b>	Church Growth and Evangelism Focus	
Jun. 1	Maritime Pulse Deadline	
Jun. 1-3	James Rafferty/Jonathan Cascoyne Seminar	Pugwash
Jun. 15-17	Sandy Lake Academy Graduation Weekend	SLA
Jun. 9	Women's Ministries Emphasis Day	
Jun. 9	Refugees Awareness Sabbath	
Jun. 9	Canadian French Ministries	Offering
Jun. 17-24	Summer Camp Staff Orientation	
Jun. 23	Maritime Advance	Offering
Jun. 24	Conference Board of Directors	Video
Jun. 30	13th Sabbath-North American Division	Offering
Jun. 30	Cdn Native Ministries	Offering
<b>2018 MISSION INVESTMENT PROJECTS</b>		
	Mid-America Union and Pacific Union	Offering

**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 Ext 207

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

## Maritime Conference Sandy Lake Academy Scholarship

The Board of Directors and Administration of the Maritime Conference is pleased to continue to offer funds for scholarships to support Christian education in the Maritimes.

The scholarship will be administered by the Maritime Conference Administrative Committee in consultation with the Maritime Conference Education Superintendent.

### Purpose of Scholarship:

To financially support non-Sandy Lake Academy constituent students from Seventh-day Adventist families living in the Maritimes to attend Sandy Lake Academy.

### Amount Available:

\$3,000.00 per student per school year for dormitory students.

\$1,500.00 per student per school year for non-dormitory students.

### Qualification:

1. Parents or student must be a member of a Maritime Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church living in the Maritimes.
2. Student must be in grades 9 - 12.
3. Student must maintain an acceptable grade in all subjects.

### Disbursement:

The scholarship will be paid on behalf of the student directly to Sandy Lake Academy.

The scholarship will be disbursed in two payments:

Dormitory students: \$1,500.00 end of January.

Non-dormitory students: \$750.00 end of January.

Dormitory students: \$1,500.00 end of June.

Non-dormitory students: \$750.00 end of June.

Any student who does not attend for the entire term will receive a pro-rated scholarship commensurate with the time period in attendance.

### Application:

All applications for the scholarship must be submitted to the Conference by August 15.

Maritime Conference Sandy Lake Academy Scholarship Application Form	
School Year Applied For:	
Name of Parents:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
E-mail Address:	
Church of Membership:	
Name of Student:	
Age:	
Grade:	
Signature of Local Pastor Recommending Student:	

## Maritime Conference eSchool (PACeS/WCASC) Scholarship

The Board of Directors and Administration of the Maritime Conference is pleased to continue to offer funds for scholarships to support students in the Maritimes who wish to enroll in Alberta's online PACeS program or British Columbia's online WCASC program.

The scholarship will be administered by the Maritime Conference Administrative Committee in consultation with the Maritime Conference Education Superintendent.

### Purpose of Scholarship:

To financially support Maritime students who do not have access to a local Seventh-day Adventist Constituent School and who enroll in the PACeS or WCASC program.

### Amount Available:

\$35.00 per student per month for ten months for K-6.

\$50.00 per student per month for ten months for 7-9.

### Qualification:

1. Parents or student must be a member of a Maritime Conference Seventh-day Adventist Church living in the Maritimes.
2. Student must be in grades K - 9.
3. Student must maintain an acceptable grade in all subjects.

### Disbursement:

The scholarship will be paid on behalf of the student directly to PACeS or WCASC.

The scholarship will be disbursed in two payments: January and June.

Any student who does not attend for the entire term will receive a pro-rated scholarship commensurate with the time period in attendance.

### Application:

All applications for the scholarship must be submitted to the Conference by August 15 of the upcoming school year.

Maritime Conference eSchool (PACeS/WCASC) Scholarship Application Form	
School Year Applied For:	
eSchool Program:	
Name of Parents:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	
E-mail Address:	
Church of Membership:	
Name of Student:	
Age:	
Grade:	
Signature of Local Pastor Recommending Student:	

THE GREATER NEW YORK CONFERENCE, FAMILY AND YOUTH DEPARTMENTS INVITES YOU TO THE

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**Pastor Ariel Manzueta**  
 Youth Ministries Director  
 GNYC



**Pastor Everett Samuel**  
 Singles Ministries Coordinator  
 GNYC



**Pastor Andrés Reyes**  
 Senior Pastor  
 Central SDA Church, Santiago, DR



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION,

CALL: 516-627-9350

CONTACT: KERRIANN HAYMAN • EMAIL: FAMILYMINISTRIES@GNYC.ORG



**ABC MARITIME BOOKVAN**  
 April 17-18, 2018

Please note: This is the only ABC bookvan delivery in the Maritimes until campmeeting time.

The ABC will try their best to fill your orders now and for campmeeting.

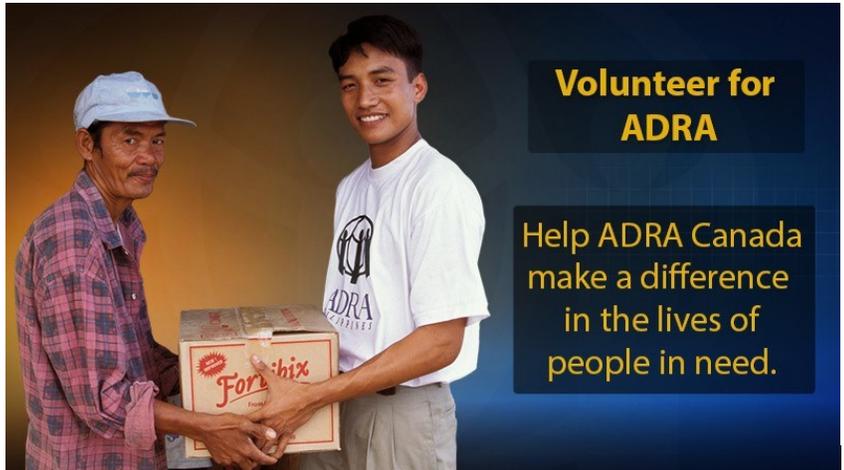
Contact the ABC for prices, as they are changeable.

You can pre-order/pay for orders to be picked up at campmeeting too.

Those involved in the cafeteria or snack shop for summer camp and campmeeting may want to put the order in for delivery on this run, as next delivery isn't until July 17 or so.

Place orders of book and food items by calling:

**800.765.6955**



**Volunteer for ADRA**

Help ADRA Canada make a difference in the lives of people in need.

ADRA Canada is seeking volunteers with backgrounds in international development or communications to volunteer in Cambodia and the Philippines.

Details can be found at <http://yci.org/apply/>.

Sharmilla Reid, Supporter Relations Director

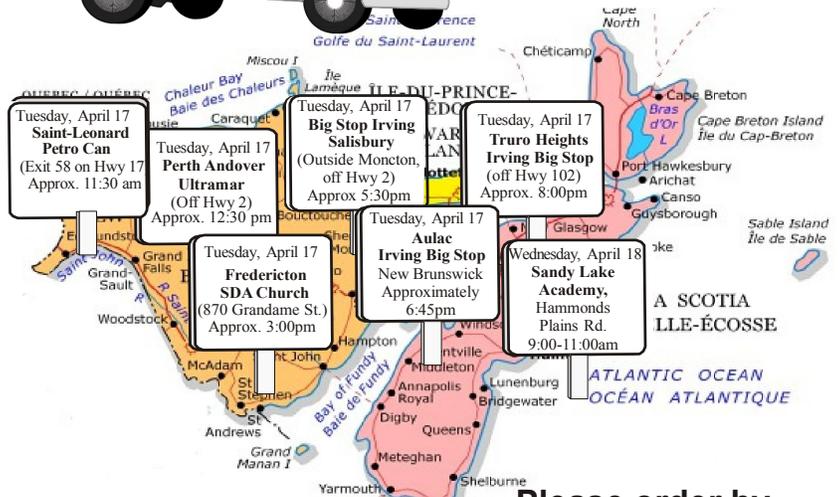
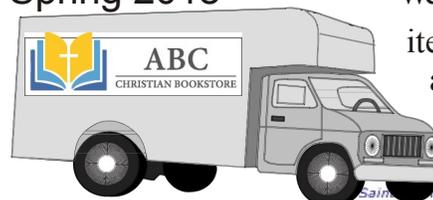


**ABC Christian Bookstore**

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 Local 905-579-2311 Toll-Free 800-765-6955  
 Fax 905-579-5686 [www.AdventistBookCenter.com](http://www.AdventistBookCenter.com)

**ABC Maritime Bookvan Delivery**  
 Spring 2018

We will only be delivering items that are pre-ordered and pre-paid. You may call, fax or email your order.



**Saving you shipping costs**

**Please order by Thursday, April 12th**