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# NL NEWSLETTER



## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR MISSION UPDATES

Jack Baier's Retirement | By: Pastor Ken Corkum



Pastor Ken Corkum  
presenting Jack Baier with  
service plaque at 13th  
Constituency Meeting.

November 1, 2019, marked the date Jack Baier retired from service at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Newfoundland and Labrador. Jack has been an integral part of the Lord's work in the NL Mission and a blessing to those to whom he meets. For 30 years he diligently and unselfishly served this field in the treasury department and with Camp Woody Acres. Jack continues to spend his time serving as a volunteer in the Conception Bay South Church (his home church) and as a Camp Superintendent at Camp Woody Acres. Pastor Ken said, "the touch of your life and skills, Jack, may be found throughout the NL Mission including; Camp Woody Acres, Mission Office, and local home church. From running a well maintained and operating camp, a smooth-running treasury department, and serving among the churches Sabbath to Sabbath, the church in NL is better because of your 30 years of service. Thank-<sub>1</sub> you Jack."

## NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR MISSION UPDATES

Goodbye Andre and Bertina Hibbert | By: Kelley Symonds and Xenia Capote

In February 2019, Andre Hibbert joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Newfoundland and Labrador and left in August of 2021. During his stay, he served our island as the Senior Accountant, an active leader in the St. John's church, a traveling preacher to many districts, and a great chaperone to youth events. We will miss both Andre and his supportive wife, Bertina. Xenia Capote (Secretary/Treasurer) says, "We thank Andre for his work as Senior Accountant at the NL Mission and his labor for the Master sharing the Word in the different churches. May God continue to use him in New Brunswick." Friends and co-workers share that he is soft-spoken until he is behind the pulpit, where his passion for Christ raises the volume. Although both Andre and Bertina's presence is missed, we are grateful for their time spent here.



Andre and Bertina Hibbert at their home church in St. John's, NL.

## WOODY ACRES DAY CAMPS

ZOOM, Bonavista, Marystown, Bay Roberts, and St. John's | By: Kaitlynn Harushimana

Top: Bay Roberts VBS program



Middle: Marystown/Red Harbour VBS program



Bottom: ZOOM VBS 'JAMI JAMI' Kingdom



This year, 2021, carried forward the restrictions of 2020, and COVID 19 made hosting an in-person camping experience impossible. This was profoundly disappointing to everyone as it is a highlight to our summers; however, we did not allow this to ruin our chances of a Camp Woody Acres Experience. How? Although the campground plays a considerable role, the camp is also the people, the fellowship, and the memories made. If we could not reach a district physically, we did catch them via ZOOM. This summer began with a 'JAMI JAMI Kingdom' online Vacation Bible School program. An in-person 'Rescued Safe In Jesus' program was held for Marystown, Bonavista, Bay Roberts, and St. John's. It was an enjoyable summer for all involved, despite not being physically at the camp. Please say a prayer for our young people as we continuously seek ways to connect. planning has commenced for 2022, and we pray that it will bring us all together once again.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES REPORT

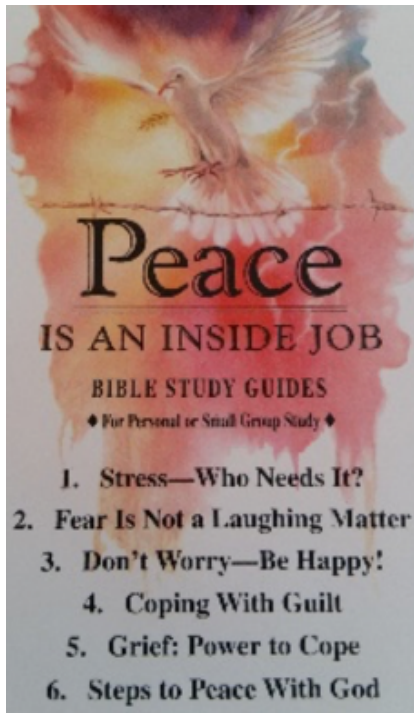
By: Pastor Jonathan Gascoyne

NL One Team Playbook we are nearing the end of the NL One Team Playbook, youth leadership training workshops. We, the Youth Leadership Team, have been preparing for and leading out in workshops throughout the entire year. These are being recorded. This will allow the training to be available to anyone interested in youth ministries or to receive North American Division (NAD) Certification for a specific youth ministry. Please contact Jonathan Gascoyne if interested in taking workshops or desire to be involved with youth ministries in another way. There has been a follow-up from the 2021 NL Constituency visioning break-out session. A group of individuals from across the island have decided to continue meeting together throughout the year for brainstorming, visioning, and hearing reports on what is happening within youth ministries.



## CORNER BROOK

By: Diane and Lawrence Burns



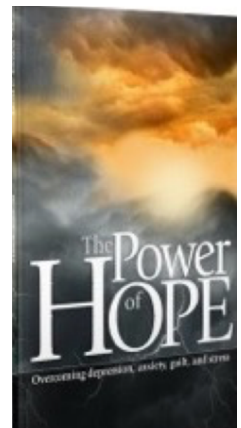
As Summer 2021 became official, the Corner Brook Church was winding up a follow-up program to the Final Empire series held in May. "Peace Is an Inside Job" resonated with the 18-20 participants. The six-part Bible studies addressed the topics of stress, fear, worry, grief, and peace and those who attended shared together, laughed together, and even shed some tears together.

Lifestyle Canada rolled out its Care for Hope Outreach Initiative. Corner Brook participated in a 50,000 Facebook Ad Campaign for Western NL, from Port Aux Basques to Springdale, Deer Lake to St. Anthony, and across the straits to Forteau, Labrador. The ads focused on felt needs: anxiety, fear, depression, and addiction. Facebook users were offered the free book, "The Power of Hope" which they could either download or have mailed to them.

The initial report at the end of August indicated over **15,000 people** were reached by the ads and over **200 books** were either mailed or shared electronically! Requests came in from all kinds of people, mostly secular-minded individuals looking for hope. Praise God that we could help

them on their journey! Here's a few responses:

C---, "Just received mine this morning, thank you so very much!!! I started to read this, just finishing chapter 1!!!" S---, "Thank you. I'm really at the lowest point in my life emotionally. I needed this this morning." M---, "This book will help me move forward. My youngest brother passed away Nov. 9, 2020 & mom is passing away. Thank you so much!"





## BOTWOOD, COTTRSELL'S COVE, AND GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR

Food Hampers, local church work, WK4C, The Word Study | By: Pastor Jonathan

**FOOD HAMPERS-** The Central NL SDA District Church Family has continued to provide food hampers for our communities this past year and summer. Our members meet each to assemble and distribute 10 food hampers to those in need, with special themed family meal kit complete with all ingredients and for the month. In 2020 we were able to distribute 48 food hampers from the ADRA grant and to date for 2021 we have distributed 80.

**WORKBEE-** On Sunday July 18, thirteen members of the Central NL SDA Church Family District met for a Work-Bee at Botwood SDA Church. The church was in desperate need of TLC; with many hands, some elbow grease, and church family

love, many projects and general cleaning was completed that day. Four others

who were not able to make it that day also helped prior to the date in repairing and painting our wheelchair ramp. We enjoyed a pizza picnic on a beautiful day and were all smiles – as you can see from the picture!



Central church family gathered at the Botwood SDA Church for workbee.



Before and after cemetery repairs.

**CEMETARY REPAIRS** - After contacting family members who had concrete forms in the Botwood cemetery, permission was received to renovate. After cutting through, breaking up, and disposing of the concrete forms, they filled the sunken graves with topsoil and will be laying grass seed in the Spring. They have also modified

prior rules; will be making signage to hang on the fence, as well as have uniform flowerpots available for family members to place their decorations in. So far, over the course of four days, eight men – including non-members – have helped in the renovation process. Overall, the properties look nicer, are safer, and are easier to maintain.

**TECH UPGRADES-** One thing that COVID has shown us is that online ministry is a key element in reaching out to and connecting with the generation we are currently living in. Although our audiovisual equipment in the district is good, much of it is 25 years old, and is becoming more and more difficult to use with modern technology. Our district has agreed to upgrade our tech for all three congregations and make permanent installations that are user-friendly and secured against potential theft.

- a. Vlogging equipment for Grand Falls-Windsor.
- b. Live-Streaming equipment for Botwood, along with a secure audiovisual booth & a security system.
- c. Audio booth & equipment to enhance Cottrell's Cove singing and movie nights.

**COTTRELL'S COVE** - We have been able to repair parts of the two church bridges last fall and were able to repaint them this summer. Our light sign photocell has been repaired, as well as putting timer switches on the other outdoor lights. When darkness falls, our little church in Cottrell's Cove is a beacon of light.



**WK4C** - Winning our Kids for Christ (WK4C) was launched, which is a simple, short program to provide caregivers of children and youth support, whether it be parents, grandparents, or another caregiver. "If you've been there or are there (raising children), we would love to learn from your experience," says a parent from the group. It's to help us keep in touch, give encouragement, and learn from one another. This gathering happens just once a month, usually on the second Sunday of the month, at 2 PM and will last for an hour or less.

## THE WORD: CHRIST, SCRIPTURE, TRUTH

**The Word Study** - Central held a virtual Bible study group over Zoom called, "The Word," going through the "Peace is an Inside Job" study guides together. This was a follow-up program for those that attended the Depression & Anxiety Recovery Program (DARP) as well as "Final Empire,"

the Voice of Prophecy event. They had people leading out the studies from all three congregations in the district, with a maximum of twenty-one people in attendance. Fifteen were able to draw for a free Bible or Christian prize on the last night for attended all the sessions, the make-up sessions, or completed the study guides.

## BONAVISTA

Bonavista's Adult VBS By: Kaitlynn Harushimana

This summer was an eventful summer for the small church in Bonavista as they hosted their first Vacation Bible School program in many years. The church family with Pastor Dave and Jeanette and Pastor Etienne, Katie, Amia, and summer leader Danielle, led out in "Rescued" a Noah's Ark themed program. Monday included decorating and preparing the church, and Tuesday the program began. Everyone was slightly disappointed on Tuesday when no children attended the program, until the church family decided they would be the children at heart. Together they had four days of excitement and fun. All the "big kids" had songs, crafts, activities, and a wonderful time together, which ended with a little graduation on Sabbath. This time together was a blessing, and the church family is ready to run another program next summer, and confident that anyone who comes will be blessed.



Bonavista VBS group picture.

## MARYSTOWN

Community Garden By: Pastor Etienne and Kaitlynn Harushimana

The Marystown Seventh-day Adventist Church took advantage of the 2020 Adventist Community Service funds to begin building a community garden on the church property. The purpose of this community garden was to do outreach. Hoping that this area could support low-income families, such as single-parents and the elderly, and many mental health difficulties, and those battling loneliness, depression, and anxiety.



Young 3 year old gardener pulling his carrots.



25 beds at beginning of season.

The goal of the garden was to build friendships in the church and community, give the youth group a project, promote health messages, and encourage the community to get outside throughout the week.

We began building in late June and by the first week of July everything was planted. The garden was a huge success as the beds served 30 different families, from 2 to 85 years old everyone loved getting into the dirt and taking care of the beds.

With the money from ADRA, the church also purchased picnic tables and benches where people could rest and have a picnic. Sometimes the children play there while their parents work in the gardens. It's turned into a reading centre as well. It's a safe place where people can socialize. We even have outdoor services and sing-alongs there, when safe. We are also planning to install a sand-box and fire pit to give more options for people to gather outside.

Harvesting began mid- July with broccoli, cauliflower, beans, and peppers, then cabbages, turnips, carrots, and potatoes. There were even beets, and lots of cherry tomatoes late into the fall. Among the fruits and vegetables planted, the turnips, potatoes, carrots, peas, and cabbages have been firm favorites.

With a waitlist of community members eager to be involved, we are already planning an expansion. We are going to build extra beds so more families can participate. Plans are being made to create higher beds, so seniors don't have to bend low, as well as a few wheelchair-accessible beds.

Marystown Church is excited to continue this project, and continue to reach the people of the Burin Peninsula.



Plant | Grow | Share  
Fellowship

Fellowship



## BAY ROBERTS

New Horizons Homeschool Co-op By: Amy Chafe

The Bay Roberts Seventh-day Adventist Church started the new school year with a New Horizons Homeschool Co-op. We asked Amy Chafe, founder, and parent volunteer to give us some insight into this new Co-op and this was her response.

**Why did you begin this program?** “I would have to say the need for a community of children to grow and learn together in a safe and God centered environment. We have been a long time desiring an Adventist school here on the island but big ideas, such as starting a school, take a lot of time and patience. Until then we needed something that would meet the present need. I have three children, two of whom are school aged, who have been homeschooled for a few years now. I had been praying that God would provide more for them in their learning experience. I also was in need of more support in educating them for God’s kingdom. I prayed for His will to be done, whatever that was. I thought maybe He will send a missionary teacher or somehow a school would start up. What this has come to be was not something I really expected. Homeschooled children, especially from Christian families, will always have that desire of a wholesome community of friends for their children to associate with. With a homeschool co-op several needs are met such as supporting parents in educating their children, providing a safe community to learn within, and most importantly offering these children and parents an opportunity to learn more of Jesus each and every day.”



New Horizons Homeschool Co-op classroom setup in the church basement.

**How did it all begin?** “I remember way back in May or June talking with Pastor Fred Nahirny about the need I felt for a more spiritual atmosphere with community for the kids to learn to love Jesus. He agreed wholeheartedly and said we just need to move forward, God will provide. I somewhat doubted at the time, especially when he would mention such steps of faith as finding a teacher and getting started and the children and the funds will come. A school would have taken time, getting a teacher would have taken time and we only had until September to be up and running. Nonetheless, he started to look into things and I really appreciate that he took that step.



A few children ready for a day of activities.

Then one morning I was having my prayer walk and God inspired me with the idea of a homeschool co-op where homeschooled kids get together to learn. Ideas just kept pouring in. I believe God had it all planned out for us! I texted Pastor Fred with a glad heart to tell him of this new idea. He responded, “Amazing Amy! I’m telling you, if we simply move forward with faith, God will open doors and we will be amazed at what He can do for us. This could be the beginning of something that has huge potential here!” I know this was his exact response because I took a screenshot of the text to save it as a memory after the co-op idea came to life after only a month of planning. It was in supernatural time and we give all thanks to God for how He provided a way when it seemed the end goal was so far away!”

**What Are Your Hopes for the Island?** “We actually are praying that more churches can start something like this in their area, because no matter where you go across the island there are families who are homeschooling and looking for such things as we are providing through New Horizons Co-op. Not only can we provide for our own church children’s education needs through this means but also for many families in search for this type of learning environment within our surrounding community. As Jesus gives us example, it’s a way to become friends with others and meet a need that they have and in turn share more with them about Jesus. It’s showing people we care about them and their families and that we are here to help and support.”



Music class with church volunteer.

**Where is the program at this point; how is it currently operating?** “At this point we have grown to 8 children, 5 of whom are from the community and were not known by us prior to starting, just homeschooling families in desire of a learning environment such as we offered. Two families actually travel from St. John’s to attend, I told them they are dedicated! Each day we start off with a devotional time with the children. We want our learning to always point back to Jesus and our day to start with Him! Our subjects currently include science, social studies, Bible, music, art and baking. We also have a lovely break outside where we have been able to set up two playground sets, a climbing dome, soccer nets, and a picnic table. All thanks to generous donations! We have enjoyed a nature outing during this beautiful fall season and have also taught our group how to use our composting system which were fun learning experiences. When you’re in a group such as this there is much more freedom for hands on learning experiences and fostering the children’s interests.



Eden and Isaac Chafe on their nature outing

At this time, myself and Pastor Fred are the main instructors; we joke about the fact that we never thought we would be teachers! However, we couldn’t do it alone! We are thankful for the support of our church family in this endeavour from those who volunteer their time in teaching special classes, on attending planning meetings, others who help with cleaning and set up, those who have donated financially, and those who are praying. We are even thankful for children in our church, although some have a full day of public school they still attend our co-op after this, what devotion we can learn from them. We love that we could set hours to operate that made this possible. I know Pastor Ken and Celeste have been praying for me and my family for some time as I shared with them

my personal need and desire for my children and our church, thank you, your prayers are being answered. I am also personally thankful to Pastor Fred for taking on this big task along with his devotion to the children and for the faith God gave him to say “let’s move forward.

The verse I have been continually reminded of throughout this endeavour is Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God *is* with you wherever you go.” Let’s remember this, God has big plans in store for us and our children here in Newfoundland. He cares about this small island we call home and the people we call family. I am so glad to be a part of His family and for the joy he has given me in serving Him at New Horizons Home-School Co-op. Maybe you see a similar need as we have seen in our area and God is speaking to you to move forward with something similar at your local church. Please don’t hesitate to reach out and we would be happy to support you in any way we can. We can rejoice that nothing is too hard for our God and friend, “all His biddings are enabling’s!”



## ST. JOHN'S

### Community Garden By: Trudy Morgan-Cole

Summer 2021 has been a busy time for the St. John's SDA Church Community Services department. Our Food Hamper & Grocery Gift card program continued throughout the summer with deliveries in June, July, and August. Typically, we have been giving \$50 Sobeys or Dominion gift cards to over 40 individuals and families in need, once each month. Though most people prefer a gift card that allows them to shop for the food items their family needs most, a smaller number of people (generally between 5-10 people each month) choose a food hamper as they have no way to get to a supermarket.

As of the end of August we had used the last of a \$10,000 grant we were given by ADRA to operate this program during 2021. We are prayerfully seeking further sources of funding so that we can continue to provide this service that so many people in our community rely on.

Our Community Garden program is in its second year of operation this summer. With generous support from ADRA Canada, the provincial government, and some private donors, we were able to expand our garden space from 10 beds to 17 beds this year, as well as adding an outside tap for watering, a storage shed, and two cherry trees. Most of the garden beds are maintained by people from the surrounding neighbourhood, with a few being tended by church members, and one bed is set aside to grow potatoes for the church food bank. Gardeners are growing potatoes, carrots, onions, beans, herbs, and many other food crops as well as some beautiful sunflowers that brighten up the view from behind the church parking lot.

A new pilot project in the garden this year saw the construction of a 4-ft high raised bed for a gardener with mobility issues. This allows the gardener to tend their bed while standing; we hope to build more of these next year if we have requests for them, so that seniors and people with disabilities can also participate in the garden



Community Garden volunteers with fall harvest.



Fall harvest

program.

We are so grateful to all the donors and volunteers who have made the Aldershot Community Garden a success for two years now, and have high hopes for next year!