

Maritime Conference SPOTLIGHT

July 2024 Edition



SEW

Spiritual Emphasis Weekend

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Where Do You Bank?

Where do you bank? This was the question that was raised as the theme for the Maritime Conference's Spiritual Emphasis Weekend (SEW) at Camp Pugwash in Nova Scotia. It was inspired by a team of the youngest pastors of the Maritime Conference, Noreen Geffrard, Adrian Jones, and Michael Hall. Their theme embraced the ideology of monetary banking and related it to the experience of mentoring and discipling those who are inside and outside of the church. They paralleled the three basic questions that are asked when one is banking to the steps that should be taken when the sharing the gospel with others. These questions are: *What or who do we invest in? How do we invest? And, what happens if we don't invest?*

Pastor Noreen Geffrard started off the series on Friday night. Her sermon was entitled, *Unasked Questions*. She focused on the story of the Good Samaritan found in Luke 10: 25-37. In this story, she says that a lawyer asked Jesus about what he needed to do to be saved. Jesus directed him to the scriptures, "...to love God and love your neighbor as yourself." Then, the lawyer asked Jesus the question "Who was my neighbor?" He didn't ask about who God was, she says, he asked about who his neighbor was.

Today, like the Levite and priest in the parable of *the Good Samaritan*, Christians tend to separate their relationship with God from their relationship with others. This is something that people often do, serving and sacrificing for God, but at the same time ignoring their neighbors. The good Samaritan, who was the unlikely character, shows us that even a rival person can be a good neighbor. In the end, the question of "Who is God?" was answered in the person of the good Samaritan. She pointed out in her sermon, that this parable was not only about how we ought to be as Christians, but it is also about how Jesus is with us. We are to invest in others as God takes care of and invests in us.

On Sabbath morning, Pastor Adrian Jones explored the question, *How does our identity impact how we invest in those around us?* His sermon was entitled, the Church Identity Crisis. He posed several questions; "Does our church identity make a difference in the community that we live in? Does it empower the next generation of young adults within our church?" Through the story of *the Woman at the Well*, he explored what investing in people looks like by using a Christo-centric example. Jesus made the necessary effort to meet the Woman at the Well where



she was. Pastor Adrian also pointed out that when we truly have a love for people in our hearts, we will truly make an effort to help them to be saved. He reminded us that ministry is not what we do, but it is who we are.

On Saturday evening, Pastor Micheal Hall spoke about what happens when we don't invest? He talked about the story of the Parable of the Talents. His sermon was entitled *Investment Banking* and the scripture reading came from Matthew 25:27, "So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest." He reminded everyone that every person who accepts Jesus into their lives is called to ministry. We must do something. The Hebrews didn't

believe in taking interest from each other, this why he said that this bible verse was talking about investing in the gentiles. He told us that gentiles represented those who were outside of the faith, and we will not see the results that the Lord wants us to see if we don't make an effort to invest in them.

It was a wonderful weekend as members from all over the Conference attended SEW for fellowship as well as for a spiritual renewal. The Maritime Conference wishes to thank everyone for showing their support through their attendance as well as their participation. Without your help this weekend would not have been as great as it was. God bless you all!

Submitted by
Ron Marshall

Executive Secretary of the Maritime Conference



It was a Sabbath morning when I was asked the question “Do you ever find it hard to be an Adventist?” It might not have been worded exactly in that way, but that was what I understood the question to be. I had never been asked that before, and I wasn’t sure how to respond.

I had been brought up in an Adventist home. There were certain things we did and didn’t do. It was just the way it was. I can’t tell you I was the most obedient child. I’m fairly certain I received more spankings than my brother, and even though there were things I felt I missed out on because of Friday evenings and Saturdays. I don’t remember thinking it was hard to be an Adventist. And I don’t think it ever occurred to me to rebel and blatantly disobey my parents and try to sneak out of the house, to meet up with people I shouldn’t have been sneaking out to meet, to do things I shouldn’t be doing.

That was then. Now, (and I want to say we won’t talk ages because that’s not really important, but I believe it is important) at 51, I have a better understanding and appreciation for what I was taught as a child, and I think I can say it would be hard for me not to be an Adventist. And some Adventists might shudder at this suggestion, some might turn over in their graves (just to be clear, I know that’s not possible), but I don’t think the end goal is necessarily about being an Adventist. It is about being a follower of God.

Psalm 119:104 states “through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.” If our goal is to be an Adventist, I think we will fail more often than not. We will look at the checklist of things to cross off, having accomplished the task.

What amazed me most about that day, the Sabbath of the Spiritual Emphasis weekend at Camp Pugwash, is that the speaker for the worship service talked about motivation and priorities. It’s not that we don’t have time, it’s more about what we spend our time doing. And what is our motivation for doing what we do? Are we doing just enough to get by?

I don’t know if my answer to the question “Do you ever find it hard to be an Adventist?” was adequate. But if I can apply what I took away from the message that God gave Pastor Adrian for that Sabbath, I will have a better answer the next time. If my motivation for being an Adventist is to cross things off a list and be part of a group, it will be hard. We can’t rely on others to define what our experience should be. We can’t live someone else’s convictions just because we think that is what is expected.

If we take time to get to know God, we will want to spend even more time with Him. And as the song says, “the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace”. His wants for us will become our wants for ourselves and the checklist disappears. It won’t be about being an Adventist, it will be about being an obedient child of God. And chances are you will discover you have lived up to God’s definition of a good Adventist and be able to say, “that wasn’t hard at all”.



Submitted by
Lois Hancock

From the Pugwash Seventh-day Adventist Church



The Maritime Conference Rooted in Wellness Workshop

The Maritime Conference held their first Rooted in Wellness Workshop June 6th to the 9th, 2024. The weekend focused on being rooted in God by learning about inexpensive, health-giving remedies that He has so graciously provided for us! There were hands-on workshops of hydrotherapy, cooking, massage, and poultices, and lectures about handling stress, Alzheimer's Disease, antioxidants, common-sense nutrition, the use of herbs in healing, Vitamins N, L, and R (Nature, Listening, and Reading!), learning to tell yourself the truth, and more!

It was educational, informative, and enjoyable. A whole-foods plant-based menu topped off this Holy Spirit inspired weekend. Daily exercise and fellowship were also on the schedule! To sweeten the weekend even more there were many wellness prizes like charcoal,

aloe vera plants, herbs, seeds, etc. to be won! The weather was kind to us; the rain held back until evening, praise God! Here are some of the comments that were made about this wellness workshop:

- “Very informative and Bible based”
- “Great Information”
- “This has gone above and beyond”
- “Descriptive and interactive”
- “Educational, Informative”
- “Love the spiritual aspect of this workshop by tying everything together and pointing it all back to God and His Word.”

There is nothing left to say, except that God is very GOOD!!!

Submitted by
Catherine Walsh
Health Ministries Director of the Maritime Conference





ATTENTION ALL ADVENTIST BUSINESS OWNERS!

We are currently working on formulating a **Business Directory for the Maritime Conference**. If you are interested in sending your business information to us to have your business publicized in our directory, please send your information to ron.marshall@maritimesda.com. We want to support you in whatever capacity that we are able to.

Raising Funds for ADRA



Colourful Hand-Knotted Rugs Crafted From Old T-shirts

I'll be at **Pugwash Camp Meeting**
Tuesday July 30th and Friday August 2nd
10am—3:30pm

Outside the Cafeteria or inside if it's raining

Sue Hummel
The Rug Lady of Lyons Brook
Member of the New Glasgow Church

Please bring or send donated t-shirts
For further information please call me at 902-301-6642



The Maritime Conference Camporee

The Maritime Conference Camporee was held from May 31-June 2, 2024, at Camp Pugwash. The camporee theme was *Freedom of Choice*. Clubs from St. George, Fredericton, Moncton, Bathurst, Charlottetown, New Glasgow and Sandy Lake Academy took part in our event. This was our largest registration with over 120 campers. Each club held a morning worship, evening vespers or Sabbath program. We completed the Creation Honor and Award from the Florida Conference and held a Camporee Olympic. Our Sabbath worship guest speaker was former Club Ministry Director, Bill Harrington. The weather may have been a little cold, but our Pathfinder and Adventurer spirits were warm. We had a game/popcorn evening on Saturday and camporee and year end awards were presented on Sunday.

Submitted by

Brenda Henry

Director of Club Ministries for the Maritime Conference





Pastor Josiah Anunciacion Welcome to the Maritimes!

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The Maritime Conference is happy to announce the newest member of our pastoral team named Josiah Anunciacion. Josiah is a recent graduate of Burman University with a Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies. If you see him around Camp Meeting this summer, take the time to greet him! He will be working as part of our Camp Staff at Camp Pugwash this summer. He will officially start his call to pastor the Saint John and Barnesville Seventh-day Adventist Church on July 01, 2024. "I am excited to begin working in the Maritime Conference and integrate myself with the people, place, and culture..." he said, "Over the past few years, my academic and spiritual journey has fostered a passion for community engagement and spiritual growth, which I look forward to applying in my new role. I am excited to work closely with these two churches in serving our Lord and introducing others into His everlasting kingdom."

Outside of his professional life, Josiah enjoys outdoor activities such as biking and hiking, and immersing himself in nature's beauty. Yet as much as he cherishes the outdoors, he appreciates the balance of rest and softer, relaxing activities as well. Music is another one of his passions which he enjoys both listening to and occasionally playing. Spending quality time with friends and loved ones are essential to him, and he values meaningful connections and enriching conversations.

During his summers, he gained valuable experiences working at different churches, where he came to understand his strengths as well as his weaknesses. "These experiences have deepened my commitment to serving others and cultivating inclusive communities. Moreover, I hope that despite my young age, we will be able to work smoothly, efficiently, and lovingly as we embark on this new chapter together. I look forward to meeting you all!"

Administration

Calling all Singers & Musicians!

Camp Meeting is just around the corner, and the Maritime Conference Music Committee is looking for singers and musicians. We will hold a live audition in the main auditorium on **Friday, July 26**, from **4:15** to **5:15 PM** to fill in Monday to Thursday slots.

We want the music of the Maritime Conference Camp Meeting to be a glorious representation of all the gifted singers and musicians across our conference. We want to hear from you if you sing or play an instrument. If you don't sing in English or French, we want to hear from you too!

If you cannot make it for an in-person audition, you can also answer a survey and submit an audition recording in .mp3 format no later than **July 19, 2024, 11:59 PM (AST)**. Please click the link below or scan the QR code to access the survey and submit your recording.

Click the Link ↓

[Maritime Conference Camp Meeting Audition Submission \(office.com\)](https://office.com)



Submitted by

Gary Belhomme

*Pastor for the
Acts/Dartmouth/Halifax
Seventh-day Adventist Church*



Seventh-day
Adventist Church
MARITIME CONFERENCE

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The Maritime Conference Welcomes Our New Children's Ministry Leader!

The Maritime Conference is excited to welcome Amy Horsley as our new Children's Ministry Director. She has a degree in Early Learning and has worked in childcare for over 10 years. As a member of the Moncton Seventh-day Adventist Church, she has voluntarily helped their Children's Ministries Department with programs such as the Vacation Bible School *Cactusville Program*, Creation Sabbath, Global Children's Day, Children's 10 Days of Prayer and Children's Sabbath *A Light in the City*. She is currently a volunteer teacher for their Beginners and Kindergarten Sabbath School classes.

Amy is a stay-at-home mother of four children and has dedicated her time and efforts to raising them in the way of the Lord. She has a passion for working with children, helping them reach their full potential and providing them with support as they grow and learn. This is why we believe that her leadership experience, her heart for God, and her passion to lead children to Jesus makes her the ideal choice for our Children's Ministry Department. We pray that God will use her in a mighty way to make a powerful impact in the Maritime Conference. She shared with us, "I am looking forward to this new chapter as Children Ministries Leader. I am also looking forward to working together with you as we support our children's path to "Grow in Jesus."

Administration

Congratulations

David & Jean Streifling

On Father's Day, Sunday, June 16, 1974, David Reuben Streifling and Margaret Jean Gaywere united in marriage at the Red Deer Seventh-day Adventist Church in Alberta. Fifty years later, on Father's Day, Sunday, June 16, 2024, David and Jean celebrated 50 years of happy wedded life in a beautiful marriage renewal ceremony held in the Pugwash Seventh-day Adventist Church in Nova Scotia. The wonderful event was planned by their daughter, Juliana Parsons of North Sydney, and their son, Jeffrey, of Fredericton. The three Adventist churches in this district—Pugwash, Truro, and New Glasgow — came together to witness the renewing of their vows led by Pastor Dave Miller, Maritime Conference President. Into his discourse, Pastor Miller incorporated many of the points made in the sermon of 50 years ago; and beautifully updated and contextualized the original vows, to which both David and Jean responded affirmatively.

Also in attendance at this event were five family members who had been present on the day of their marriage 50 years previously! These were David's sister, Virginia Bouwman, from Calgary, Alberta; and his sister Dorothy Mensink from Keene, California; Jean's sister, Donna, together with her husband Jim Jeffery currently from PEI; and Jean's sister Nancy from Ohio, who had served as her maid of honour fifty years ago. Nancy was also maid of honour again on this occasion.

As Jean walked up the aisle escorted by Bill Parsons, their son-in-law; David, just as he had done 50 years ago, sang to his bride the beautiful, touching song "Because God Made Thee Mine I'll





Cherish Thee.” He was accompanied on the piano by their son, Jeffrey. The program included two additional musical numbers from the service of 50 years ago — a trumpet solo, “O Lord Most Holy,” and a vocal solo “O Perfect Love,” both contributed by their 15-year-old grandson, Reuben. Scripture readings were contributed by their grandsons Charles and Harold.

To conclude the service, Serrina, Jeffrey’s wife, together with selected family members, presented a reading of Song of Solomon. Hosted by Pastor Michael Hall, a lovely reception for the happy couple was held in the Pugwash Church Fellowship room. The reception was organized, and the hall decorated by Donna Jeffery and Carol Webber (with several helpers). Everyone enjoyed the bountiful, delicious meal, and happy fellowship. Several tributes were given to this dedicated couple who have served the Lord in many places and in varied ministries over the years; and since moving to the Maritimes, they have added quilting to their ministry repertoire. Together with an enthusiastic quilting team from the three district churches, they have helped to create and give away more than 900 quilts during the past ten years! May God continue to abundantly bless now and in the future the happy home and marriage of David and Jean Streifling!

Submitted by

Truro Church Communications

Truro Seventh-day Adventist Church



Baby Dedications

We've had a number of special Sabbaths in Maranatha over the past few months. Several young families presented their children to God in a series of baby dedications. In February, Pastor David James had of privilege of dedicating Caiden with parents Megan & Sean. Pastor David had another special service in March for two young cousins—Jane (Kristen & Tom) and Brynn (Kaicee & Jared). Then in June, Pastor David dedicated Nash with parents Kaitlyn & Aaron. We are excited to join these families as they raise their children to know and love Jesus!



Submitted

Andy Smith

Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church

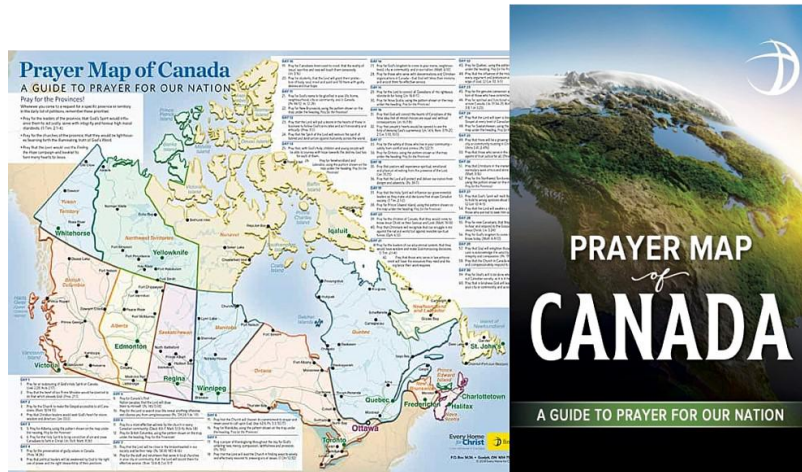
WHAT IS GOING ON IN YOUR CHURCH?

**We want to know what God
is doing in your church! Don't
keep the blessings to yourself!
Let us know so that we can
be inspired!**

Submit your reports to the MC Spotlight to
ron.marshall@maritimesda.com before
the 15th of each month
(except for July & December,
it will be on the 03rd)

*"Tell the world about Jesus...tell
them about His love...as you go...
tell the world!"*





Request your **free** Prayer Map of Canada!

Get the free Prayer Map of Canada to help you journey in prayer day by day and month by month for our nation's 41 million people.

This unique resource provides 60 prayer prompts to help you pray for our nation fervently, regularly, and with focus.

Each prayer prompt is inspired from Scripture. The Word of God repeats in many ways that the Lord loves people immeasurably, and it offers immense content for prayer for all seasons of life and for all people.

The Prayer Map of Canada is a call to prayer for our nation and its profound need of a spiritual awakening. Canada needs prayer. May God act in grace and mercy as we pray.

ORDER FOR FREE

<https://donate.ehc.ca/free-prayer-map/?ref=ccindividuals>



Our Pathfinders and Adventurers are looking for your help!

Our clubs are looking for volunteers during Camp Meeting to help out with the Snack Shop. All proceeds from the snack shop will go to the Pathfinder Clubs to help with activities, uniforms, camporees and honors, just to name a few things. There are two shifts each day starting Sunday, July 28 to Friday, August 2. 11am - 1:30pm & 4:00pm - 6:30pm. If you are able to help out with one or more of the shifts, please contact Brenda Henry or your local club. Thank you for your support of our clubs and the continuing work of our directors with our youth.

GOD BLESS!

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Be Still AND KNOW...

WOMEN'S
MINISTRY RETREAT
2024


🌸 SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2024

CAMP PUGWASH

🌸 KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
DEEANN BRAGAW



🌸 Save the Date
MORE INFORMATION TO
FOLLOW



Are You Interested in Becoming Part of the

MC SPOTLIGHT TEAM?

The Maritime Conference Spotlight is looking for church members with a gift for journalism and a passion to do God's work to join our team. We are looking for **writers, editors, photographers, comic strip artists...**you name it. Help us to encourage and inspire others through the digital and the printed page to draw closer to our Lord and Savior. If you are interested, contact Ron Marshall at ron.marshall@maritimesda.com!

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**Dear Campers,
Due to the continual shortage of cabins, we would
like to encourage you to bring alternative
lodgings such as tents & campers to
Camp Meeting!**

Administration



Maritime Conference

CAMP MEETING

2024

Growing in Jesus



Welcome Back, **ED!**

The Maritime Conference would like to welcome back Edwin (Ed) Sharpe who is our new interim treasurer. As many of us know, he is not a stranger to the Maritimes because he has already served as our Conference treasurer for 13 years. We are confident in his ability because he is joining our team with a wealth of experience. He has been the assistant treasurer for the Newfoundland Mission for 6 years. He worked for the CRA for the Calgary district for 5 years.

Ed attends the Pugwash Seventh-day Adventist Church with his wife Treva who is a retired registered nurse. Their youngest daughter Tara lives in College Place, Washington and runs a dog support business for individuals with special needs. Unfortunately, their eldest daughter Jerilyn who was a nurse passed away in 2017. We are grateful that God has called him to accept this call as we are currently looking for someone to replace our former treasurer, Bisengi Gatare. He has been a blessing to us here at the head office and we ask you to keep him and his family in prayer as he serves the Lord in this capacity.

Administration



Camp Pugwash **HAS A NEW** **ROCKWALL!**

After researching how we can enhance the Summer Camp program, it was decided to investigate the possibility of adding a portable rock wall as some of the other camps across the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Canada have done. We are happy to announce that early this year the Board of Directors voted to pursue acquiring a new rock wall for Camp Pugwash. We have already received positive feedback from children who are looking forward to using it at camp this summer. We know that this is going to be a great contribution to our summer camp program!

Administration



Seventh-day
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