



fellowship ATLANTIC

December 2020

*“So we...are
one body in
Christ and
individually
members of
one another,”
Rom 12.5*

Regional Church Visits

Glenda and I had the privilege of visiting with 8 Fellowship Churches and pastoral couples this Autumn. We thoroughly enjoyed worshipping with you folks and getting more acquainted with several families. We came away from each visit with a spirit of gladness as we see how well you shepherd your people. We enjoy the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus and the fruit of the Spirit among our churches. We are looking forward to coming to your church in 2021!



Pastor Rob Jones & Family,
Faith Baptist Church, Sydney NS
www.praisefmcb.com

New Pastors to Fellowship Atlantic in 2020

Collin, Vashti and Ainslie McMahon
Associate Pastor
Parker's Cove Baptist Church



The McMahon family is ministering in Parker's Cove, NS where Collin serves as the Associate Pastor, engaging with families and youth. They have spent the last number of years in camping/youth ministry, and have since moved back to NS to pursue local church ministry. They have one daughter, and another on the way.

Pastor Aaron & Deborah Legrow
Wood Point Baptist Church



Pastor Aaron and his wife have been in ministry for over 30+ years. He has served as Children's, Youth and Associate Pastor and for 20 years as a Senior Pastor. Pastor Aaron has also been on the Executive Board of three Baptist Associations and is on a Mission Board for 10+ years. They most recently pastored in Ontario. Welcome to Atlantic Canada folks!

Mission Focus: Church and Pastoral Health

2020 has been a very challenging year, especially for pastors who are working hard to navigate church ministry and care in stressful times. Sometimes the pastors who provide care are the very people who need care themselves. As your Regional Director, I am available to consult with church boards about determining remuneration and other aspects of healthy pastoral care. The Regional Council plans to provide a handbook resource in 2021 for churches regarding pertinent financial and regulatory information. Please let us know how we can help you.

ON THE CALENDAR:

March 25

Super Cluster

Apr.15-17

Couples Retreat

May 15

Regional Convention

at Forest Hills Church,
Dartmouth, NS (fhfbc.org)

**FELLOWSHIP
ATLANTIC:**

**Helping
Congregations
Accomplish
Christ's
Commission**

Comments from Regional Director

Polarization is a deliberate and effective political strategy that can even serve to destabilize democracies. The strategy is for parties to take more extreme left or right positions on significant issues to differentiate them from their opponents and paint their opponent as negatively extreme. This forces voters in the middle to pick one side, even if their own views may be more moderate. This divisiveness solidifies the base and inflames the opposition. The media angles for more viewers by appealing to the extremes and demonizing opponents. Influential people can degenerate into name-calling and hate. Both left and right do this and it is intentional.

Christians can get caught up in this divisiveness and forget that Jesus has called us to be reconcilers (2Cor.5:19) and peacemakers (Matt.5:9). I'm not talking about compromising our convictions to get along. But I do think we are called by God to respect and speak fairly of those we disagree with. (James 3:9). It is neither Biblical or helpful to jump on divisive bandwagons driven by secular interests and sow further division and hatred. We are called to love our enemies (Matt.5:44) and practice the Golden Rule (Matt.7:12). We can disagree in a godly manner without attacking people. We should not support those on any side who make attacking others or spreading lies their modus operandi. We are to speak truth in love (Eph.4:15), and we should concentrate on the revealed truth of God, especially when polarization clouds the issue. (John 8:32). We teach that people are not our enemy (Eph.6:12) – Satan is the adversary and he specializes in deception, division and hate. (John 8:44).

This analogy may help us act Biblically when faced with divisive issues. Take your left hand and cover your left eye. You can clearly see what is on the right, but you have no prereferral vision to the left. Take your right hand and cover your right eye. You can clearly see what is on the left, but you have no prereferral vision to the right. This is how we normally see issues and people when we take left or right sides. When we look with both eyes, let us try to see the people on the side we disagree with. When we can see them as people who are made in the image of our Creator, we are more disposed to respect them. Seeing with both eyes allows us to hold to our convictions and to obey God to love our neighbour. Failure to do casts a shadow on the testimony and our witness of our Lord.

A Tireless Fellowship Atlantic Church Member – MaryAnne Bailey October 18, 2020

Recently, MaryAnne Bailey, of Lake Echo, NS, went to be with her Saviour, after a 26-year battle with cancer. She was 56. People in various churches of the Maritimes knew her. She loved public and church events and she participated whenever time and health allowed.

She was born in Quebec, grew up in Port Dufferin, NS, and continued her education at Teachers College in Truro, NS, where she met her husband Greg of 35 years. She came to the Lord in Truro, as a young adult, through the ministry of friends at the local Bible Chapel. She taught French in various elementary schools in Nova Scotia for 20 years.

She often said, "My mother was bi-polar and my father had cancer and I got both of those diseases." She allowed neither of those conditions to hold her back from her dreams. From a 16-year old girl, who ran with Terry Fox when he journeyed through the Eastern Shore of NS in 1980 on his Marathon of Hope, she was an avid supporter of the TF Foundation, raising many thousands of dollars.

MaryAnne loved Fellowship Baptist Quick Builds. She worked on 8 such projects in Canada, travelling at her own expense to give a week or more of work in construction from the Maritimes to Ontario. She particularly loved shingling roofs and climbing through the rafters to have a picture taken while working with the men whom she could "always keep up with." She worked on an NBBI Mission with a Vision, travelled to Haiti on a Mission project, and worked at the Kitchener, ON, Operation Christmas Child Distribution Center. Most recently, in August, 2019 she worked on the Parrsboro Quick-Build. She was unstoppable on projects at LEFBC.

MaryAnne was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer in 1994 and won the battle for a good number of years. Eight years ago, it returned. From that time, she has dealt with a slow progression of the disease until her passing on October 18. Her church family and beloved nuclear family will miss her abiding enthusiasm for life.

She will be most missed by Greg, her beloved husband and care-giver to the end. He was her travel companion on annual cruises, and he was the one who often had to rein in her super-involvement with everything, giving a level of balance to her bi-polar condition. They enjoyed running together, taking part in various marathons and shorter runs. On two occasions they ran in France at the Paris Marathon.

Frank Kohler, as a friend and pastor for many years, said of her: "She was one of the most enthusiastic people I have ever met. Her generosity was philanthropic, her level of self-sacrifice for the cause of Christ was monumental. She loved Christ, Greg, music, choirs, activity, people, and life in general. Her activity could leave your head spinning but I loved her to death."

CONTACT FELLOWSHIP ATLANTIC

<https://www.fellowshipatlantic.com/>

Regional Director: Doug Campbell
campbelldg@hotmail.com

902 890 9846