

BOARD MATTERS

OCTOBER 2018



A PUBLICATION OF THE MARITIME DISTRICT PAOC



WELCOME FALL!

And just like that, Autumn is here and well underway! By now your church has launched its Fall programs, celebrated Thanksgiving, and some are even, gulp!, planning for Christmas (which will be here before we know it!).

As always, we're excited about this issue and hope every church leader finds something encouraging in each edition of Board Matters. Once again, we've asked local pastors to share what God is doing in their congregations, and we've got two fantastic stories to share with you. Pastor Nathan Hill from Evangel Assembly in Yarmouth shares about the strategy his church implemented this past Summer and how hiring Summer Interns was vital to their ministry. Pastor Ryan Raymer tells us about the new Corridor Community Gardens and how that project has increased their community impact.

We want Board Matters to be a source of information for our church boards, which is why you'll find an end of year financial checklist, a reprinting of some best practices, and a reminder about Pastor's Appreciation Month.

We want to share how God is moving in our students, so there is also a report on MYMissions from this past summer. If students from your congregation have ever attended Kids Camp, Youth Camp, or MYMissions, you know how vital those events are to the development of their faith. We're already planning and looking forward to next summer's events!

Fall Conference 2018 is coming up on November 1-2, and we want to see as many credential holders and church board members attend as possible. Please contact us if you have any questions about the conference.

Have you signed up for 2Minute Tuesday yet? It's a quick weekly District email that contains District updates, event details, and resources. If you're not receiving it, please visit our website, www.maritimepaoc.org or email us at info@maritimepaoc.org to sign up.

One last thing, included in your Board Matters packet is a copy of "Paying Our Pastors." We've added it as a resource specifically for church boards and council members. Pastors, please be sure to forward it to them, thanks so much!

REV. REBECCA HARNUM, EDITOR
RHARNUM@MARITIMEPAOC.ORG

IN THIS ISSUE

FALL CONFERENCE

ASKING FOR HELP

By Kevin Johnson

LEADERSHIP PIPELINE IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

By Jim Molloy

DOING BETTER WITH WHAT WE HAVE

By Ryan Raymer

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL CHECKLIST

MYMISSIONS 2018

By Rebecca Harnum

NEXT GENERATION EVENTS AGE POLICY

SUMMER MINISTRY STRATEGY

By Nathan Hill

DISTRICT MISSIONS UPDATE

By Kathy Kozsukan

BOARD BEST PRACTICES

By Jim Molloy

2018 FALL CONFERENCE

ONE CONFERENCE.
TWO VALUABLE EVENTS.

NOVEMBER 1 - LIFESONG CHURCH, LOWER SACKVILLE, NS
WITH SPECIAL GUEST REV. VAN JOHNSON

NOVEMBER 2 - ROCK CHURCH, LOWER SACKVILLE, NS
BELIEVABILITY TOUR

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
902-895-4212 | INFO@MARITIMEPAOC.ORG



The first day of our conference, Thursday, November 1st will take place at LifeSong Church in Lower Sackville beginning at 1:00 PM. **We encourage you to make plans to attend this significant day.**

Van Johnson will be our guest speaker. Van is well known for his work as a pentecostal theologian and his practical application of Pentecostal theology to pastoral ministry. He is joining us to discuss the work being done to update the PAOC's Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths (SOFET). This update was a focus at the 2018 General Conference in Victoria.

The General Executive has asked all Districts to participate in this discussion to refresh the SOFET. Proposed changes to the SOFET will be presented at the 2020 General Conference which will be held here in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The General Executive want to be sure that each District has had the opportunity to interact on the work the SOFET committee has been doing.

Day 1 Schedule

- 1:00 p.m. - Session 1 with Van Johnson
- 2:30 p.m. - Break
- 3:00 p.m. - Session 2 with Van Johnson
- 4:30 p.m. - Supper on your own
- 6:30 p.m. - Session 3 with Kevin Johnson

Registration Cost: \$15/person
Please note: There is no on-site registration. Please register online or send a cheque to the District Office.

The second day, Friday, November 2nd, will take place at Rock Church in conjunction with the Believability Tour Conference.

Believability Tour is a multi-denominational conference that our District Leadership felt would be of value to our credential holders and church boards. It will be a time of practical learning and is intended for pastors and lay leaders in your church.

The uniqueness of this event is that it is very affordable and designed for lay people/volunteers to come to an inspiring and practical training day. The effectiveness within each church will be based on the number of people that accompany their Pastor so that they together strive to break barriers.

We are encouraging pastors to bring along as many people from their church as possible for this valuable and inspiring time together. Last year the Believability Tour Conference was held in Moncton, New Brunswick and sold out with positive reports from our own pastors who attended.

Please note: When you register for our Fall Conference, you will also see a link where you will need to register separately for the Believability Tour Conference. Be sure to select the Halifax location when you register. We have purposely kept our registration very low for the first day so that you can take in the Believability Tour Conference with lay leaders from your church.

Step 1: Go to www.maritimepaoc.org to get all the conference info. Register for Fall Conference to let us know you are joining us at Lifesong Church. Spouses are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Step 2: Go to www.ldbuckingham.com. Register for Believability Tour.

Believability Tour

2018

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2ND ROCK CHURCH

Practical steps for Atlantic Canadian churches to get UNSTUCK!

THE COST:

\$15 PER PERSON
\$100 FOR UNLIMITED VOLUNTEERS
FROM ONE CHURCH

Express lunch available on sight for
\$10 [cash only]

THE TIME:

9:30AM - 5:00PM

Doors open at 8:30am

REGISTER:

LDBUCKINGHAM.COM

After an overwhelmingly successful event in Moncton (Nov. 2017), we are excited to offer two tour stops this year. Yarmouth, Yarmouth Wesleyan [Nov. 1st] & Rock Church in Halifax [Nov 2nd]. Registration will open in June. Do not wait to register your team as we fully expect another sell out at both locations.

- DAVE STEEVES

Executive Director of Buckingham Leadership Institute

I believe the church can and should be the most cutting edge, innovative, creative, dynamic force in every community. It is my belief that any situation can be turned around to go forward with the right kind of leadership, given time.

- PASTOR L.D. BUCKINGHAM

LDBUCKINGHAM.COM

Provided by the Buckingham Leadership Institute.
A ministry of Kingswood University.

LDBUCKINGHAM.COM

THE LINEUP



PASTOR
BUCKINGHAM
ldbuckingham.com



FATHER JAMES
MALLON
frjamesmallon.com



AJ
THOMAS
deepwaterchurch.com



KEVIN
VINCENT
kevin-vincent.ca



JERRY
REDDY
hillsidemoncton.org

THE WHY

To provide practical, applicable steps for a church to get UNSTUCK. The Maritimes do not need another conference. What Maritime churches do need is to be inspired and equipped to get unstuck. Those attending will be inspired by the infectious energy of Pastor L.D Buckingham and his 45yrs experience breaking barriers in one local church. All presenters are from Atlantic Canada who have broken growth barriers and will share specific steps they took to do it.

THE PROMISE

Those who attend will feel renewed hope for their current church situation and equipped with practical next steps.

THE TARGET

Local Church Influencers. No one should come alone. Our pricing encourages you to bring other influencers from your church. Think board members, elders, senior leadership, high capacity volunteers, staff, next generation leaders you want to equip.

FORMAT

A fast moving day that will include 18 minute TED style talks, table discussion, open mic access to main stage presenters to encourage clarity, smaller setting breakout sessions/conversations.

PRICES

\$15 per person Or \$100 for an unlimited number of influencers from the same church. An express lunch will be available on site for \$10 [cash only]. Registration opens in June 2018 at ldbuckingham.com

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

"Likely the single best experience I've had in recent years! What an encouragement to remind us that the gospel we preach is powerful and the region that we serve in can see excellence and great things!"

"The Holy Spirit used these speakers to spark something in our group that is still burning today."

"Simple, practical, and life changing!"

| Friday November 2nd, 9:00am - 4:30pm |
| Rock Church | 222 Sackville Dr, Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2R4 |
| Register: ldbuckingham.com |

ASKING FOR HELP



**BY REV. KEVIN JOHNSON
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
KJOHNSON@MARITIMEPAOC.ORG**

I moved from being highly motivated to being utterly frustrated!

A series of hardships in ministry such as cancer, members leaving, and the inability to grow as a church left me feeling bruised and beaten. My frustration was compounded because I thought I knew what we needed to do only to find there was little fruit to show for it. I thought I was a good pastor, but I could not figure out what needed to happen to get us where we needed to go.

Finally, I recognized I needed help from someone who had been down the path further than me. I have to admit, that was threatening. More than anything, I was nervous about someone looking at "my ministry" and pointing out where I could make improvements. It is an ironic thing that when you most need to reach out for help, that is when you are the least likely to do so.

Pastoral leadership is complex. It is not like other jobs in many ways. For example: in business firing an employee is a walk in the park compared to dismissing a volunteer that is related to half the congregation; bringing spiritual correction to an influential person could break your budget; that new idea you have may not be accepted until after Jesus returns; longtime members can think they are experts at your job; sometimes you have to deal with weird people. Yes, pastoral leadership is complex.

Leading a church comes with big leadership challenges. Peter Drucker is reported to have said that pastoring a church is one of the most difficult jobs. Is it any wonder we feel like we are swimming upstream without water? Pastor, you have been called to one of the most challenging pursuits you could ever undertake. Now, before continuing take a deep breath and grab a coffee!

Asking for help is hard. Jesse Lyn Stoner says the temptation is for leaders to "believe you should...always be competent...never make mistakes...always be strong." She continues by stating that this creates a dilemma for leaders because when we need to reach out for help we "are likely to feel...humiliated...incompetent...stupid."

I found it most difficult to reach out for help at the very time I most needed it. Yet I am so glad I did. The Vitalization initiatives that are available to help pastors today in many of our Districts were not available back then, but the coaches and friends that came alongside to teach and help me changed the course of my ministry. That is one of the reasons I believe so strongly in helping pastors, boards and congregations through Vitalization. Experienced leaders and coaches can bring helpful insight into the challenges being faced in our churches and ministries.

Opening my life to experienced leaders who could help me and challenge me was the beginning of the most fulfilling ministry years I have ever experienced. Over the years I have found that the most influential and effective pastors are those who continually ask others for help, insight, and understanding. It is the leaders who are open to others that excel. Stoner is convinced of the paradox that "strong leaders ask for help."

If you find yourself experiencing any of the following challenges, I want to encourage you to reach out for help:

- You're tired, frustrated and not seeing the results you hoped for.
- There is a chronic problem in the church that is not going away no matter what you try.
- You admit that your church is not as vibrant as you would like it to be.
- You would not attend your own church if you were not the pastor.
- You feel like you keep running into walls that prevent you from progress.
- Not many are coming to faith in Christ and remaining in the church.
- Things are going pretty well, but you want to see greater things happen.

The facts are that "we don't know what we don't know." That is why help from experienced leaders can be a game-changer in these situations if we are willing to ask, listen, and learn. That is why wisdom and counsel from competent leaders are so beneficial. As Krista Rizzo says "At some point, even the best of us need help."

If you have a deep desire to see God work in your congregation, why not reach out to competent leaders in your District and remember the words of King Solomon in Proverbs 15:22, "Refuse good advice and watch your plans fail; take good counsel and watch them succeed" (MSG)

OPENING MY LIFE TO EXPERIENCED LEADERS WHO COULD HELP ME AND CHALLENGE ME WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE MOST FULFILLING MINISTRY YEARS I HAVE EVER EXPERIENCED.

LEADERSHIP PIPELINE IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

BY REV. JIM MOLLOY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS
JMOLLOY@MARITIMEPAOC.ORG

The church is not to be a group of people gathered around one special leader. It's meant to be a leadership factory. We do not have a leadership crisis, as some would assert. What we have is a leadership development crisis.

Good leaders produce followers, but great leaders produce more leaders. This is true in business. This is true in scripture. This is true in the local church. The Apostle Paul wrote, "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." Leadership development is not only biblical but essential! Every leader must be a leader-maker.

Even non-leaders have a responsibility in leader-making. That is, to be affirmers and encouragers of those who are learning to lead. Doing so ensures a local church has a leader-making culture. Like Andy Stanley said, "The greatest contribution you make to the kingdom might not be something you do but someone you raise."

As Board members, it is your responsibility to assist in the leader-making process and in making your church a leader-making factory. That is, equipping and releasing people into meaningful serving roles. There are a couple of barriers to this:

1. **Know how.** Few of us have been trained on how to make leaders, so the task seems a slightly impossible and a bit overwhelming. However, there is a clear recipe in scripture for the process. It just takes a little effort to discover and implement the system.

2. **Control.** Leaders naturally like control. They want to be in control, responsible, and in charge. But, leader-making involves letting go of control, empowering not-yet-fully-competent people, and releasing authority.

3. **Not enough to do.** If your church is going to be a leader-making factory, then there have to be things for people to do. Leaders learn to lead by leading. There is no other way to learn to lead other than to lead something. If your church is static and passive, leaders cannot be developed.

4. **Fear of failure.** Leader-making cultures and environments are loaded with failures, let-downs, and disasters. People are trying leadership on for size. People are taking chances. People are taking risks. It's all a recipe for failure - even massive failure. We only have to look to the disciples to see the importance of failing with the ability to rebound into something more significant. Most churches want to be safe, but leader-making churches don't mind a little bit of mess.

AS BOARD MEMBERS, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ASSIST IN THE LEADER-MAKING PROCESS AND IN MAKING YOUR CHURCH A LEADER-MAKING FACTORY. THAT IS, EQUIPPING AND RELEASING PEOPLE INTO MEANINGFUL SERVING ROLES.

For you (and your church) there is one central element that will help you create leaders: Empowerment. Without empowerment, leader-making cannot occur. There must be no hint of a reluctance to empower. Somewhere along the way, authority must be transferred to the learner. Authority is the power to make decisions. Let me illustrate:

A few years ago, I was teaching my son how to drive a car. Of course, he had to learn the rules of the road. He had to learn the basics of how a car works. He had to observe how I drove a car. He had to see how other drivers behaved. All of this he could learn from the passenger seat. But, he would never learn to drive only by observation. I had to get out of the driver's seat and move myself to the passenger seat. I had to give him the decision-making authority that comes from being behind the wheel.

I didn't leave the car altogether. I stayed in the passenger seat. What I did was give away the authority, but kept the responsibility. I didn't abdicate. It is disempowering to give someone responsibility but not release the authority to them. (This happens too often in local churches.)

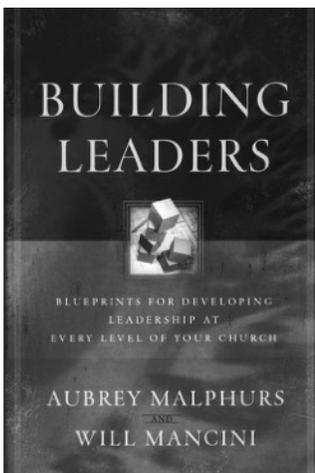
To be clear, there are some sacrifices that one must make when empowering others. First, ministry efficiency must be sacrificed. Naturally, the novice is not going to do

something as well as the mentor. But, in time, the beginner may do the ministry better than the mentor. Secondly, the established leader must embrace uncertainty. There are no guarantees. Upon empowering someone, there is a chance that the whole thing could flop. This is a risk we must take. Thirdly, the mentor has to give away leadership for which they were probably receiving praise. Humility is a key to leader-making. The established leader lays down his or her positions and functions, even if they receive accolades for those things, and give them to the junior leader. Lastly, the mentor must stay relationally connected to the learner. Emerging leaders cannot be left to flounder on their own. There is a big difference between leadership development (relational) and leadership placement (distant).

We must build an army, not an audience. Who in your sphere should be equipped into leadership? What we don't need is a community of people with a gifted pastor. What we need are more communities of gifted people. Every church needs a leadership pipeline.

Why not take 30 minutes at your next board meeting and talk about the effectiveness of leader-making in your church? Do you have a leader-making culture? What could every person do to make your church a place where the saints are equipped and released?

MOST LEADERS FOCUS ON FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY; THE BEST LEADERS FOCUS ON EMPOWERING THE RIGHT PEOPLE - CRAIG GROESCHEL



JIM'S BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Building Leaders: Blueprints for Developing Leadership at Every Level of Your Church by Aubrey Malphurs and Will Mancini

Training the next generation of leaders is crucial to spreading the gospel, yet most churches have no formal way of doing this. Why? Tight budgets, small staffs, and a lack of know-how are just a few reasons suggested by church consultants Aubrey Malphurs and William Mancini in this groundbreaking book.

Packed with surveys, discussion questions, and a leadership development guide, Building Leaders will encourage leaders to "duplicate themselves" in order to see their ministry grow. It is a perfect resource for ministry students, church leaders, and pastors.

DOING BETTER WITH WHAT WE HAVE



**BY REV. RYAN RAYMER
CORRIDOR COMMUNITY CHURCH
RYAN.P.RAYMER@GMAIL.COM**

"We can do better with what God had given us," was our motivation over the years to try and do something with our front yard at Corridor Community Church in Lantz, N.S. We had tried many times to do something that was within our means, but it never amounted to anything. The projects seemed too big and our resources too small. We had great potential, but nothing was happening.

The problem was our front yard. It was marshy and used as a drainage area for the wooded area around us. In the past, we had work days to reclaim the wild area. We had purchased fill. We even had short-term mission's teams help us, hoping that more workers would make a difference. Whatever we tried, we were not able to harness the potential that God had given us. God had a bigger plan.

It started simply one Sunday this past spring, when a young man who had recently started attending the church asked, "Have you ever thought of doing a community garden?" I responded with an encouraging

"Sounds like a good idea", thinking little of it. The following Sunday someone else, who did not know this first young man, came up to me and asked: "Have you ever thought of doing a community garden?" Realizing that this could be a God moment, I encouraged her to find out what would be needed for a community garden. She connected with our municipal leader on the Monday following who said "You're kidding me, I was walking my dog by your church yesterday and thought, 'wouldn't this be a great place for a community garden.'" We were hopeful that this was the time to see something happen in that under-utilized space finally.

We had to deal with some significant issues. How do we deal with our wetland? How can we gather the supplies? Who is going to do this? What would this cost? We are only a small congregation. If we allowed our questions to stop us from proceeding, we would never have seen the potential in what God has given us.

So with a simple presentation in hand, we went to several

WE ARE ONLY A SMALL CONGREGATION. IF WE ALLOWED OUR QUESTIONS TO STOP US FROM PROCEEDING WE WOULD NEVER HAVE SEEN THE POTENTIAL IN WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US.

local businesses. We were also interviewed by the local paper "The Weekly Press" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjoLlcVlU38>). The idea caught fire and community connections we made. We had KelGreg Construction offer to dig the fill and grade the garden area. Shaw Brick (our neighbour and the company who originally gave us the land for the church back in the 80's) helped redesign our layout. This made their donation of nearly \$17,000 in retaining wall stone into approx. 1500 sq. ft. of raised garden beds. We had other companies supply labour, tools, supplies, to build the fence, enlarge the pond, and fill the garden beds. The municipality of East Hants also came on board financially with a grant of over \$10,000.



Then the work began. Our Project Lead and church attendee, Amy Silver, along with a group of volunteers worked throughout the summer to build garden beds, deer fences, and garden space.



Our garden is growing and not just with veggies. We were able to add two beehives to the garden. The bees assist in pollination while also providing honey that is sold to raise money for the garden. We have grown as a community with regular comments and questions about the garden. We have new opportunities coming as a result of the garden, including teaching a course at the local adult learning center on beekeeping. We also have plans for our local Primary students to visit next year and learn how the garden grows. Our seniors also plan to come with the help of our community Rider program which will pick-up and drop off once a week. Our growing church is now on the map as a great place that loves our community and is giving back in tangible ways.



God originally gave us the land back in the 80's, and now He has given us an opportunity to serve Him with it by serving others. Not only are we providing food for the hungry, but we are also able to provide a space for our community to grow in a relationship with others and with Jesus.

OUR GROWING CHURCH IS NOW ON THE MAP AS A GREAT PLACE THAT LOVES OUR COMMUNITY AND IS GIVING BACK IN TANGIBLE WAYS.





PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

A LETTER TO CHURCH BOARDS

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. We hope that you express appreciation many times throughout the year, but October is a month when special attention is given to showing love and gratitude to your pastor(s).

I'm asked often what kinds of things are appropriate for pastor appreciation. My response is, just about anything as long as it encourages, builds up, and expresses love and appreciation for their work among you.

Showing acts of love is one way a congregation can honour the words of Apostle Paul as he encouraged the church saying, "We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labour among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work" (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).

I encourage you to be generous in how you bless your pastor(s). Remember their spouse and children. Our children still remember the generosity shown to them. They always looked forward to the acts of love shown to them in various ways (especially gift cards!).

There are many websites with great ideas you can check out. Just for fun, here's a list we recommend that you NOT give to your pastor: a plaque with praying hands, a book you think your pastor should read, a tie, a bible, a history of your church, a copy of the church directory, a chicken you purchased in their name through World Vision (no really, this has happened!).

WE ASK YOU, BROTHERS, TO RESPECT THOSE WHO LABOUR AMONG YOU AND ARE OVER YOU IN THE LORD AND ADMONISH YOU, AND TO ESTEEM THEM VERY HIGHLY IN LOVE BECAUSE OF THEIR WORK.
1 THES. 5:12-13

Ask a few people to organize it and give them a generous budget, ask people to write cards of appreciation, surprise them by sending them away for a weekend, provide babysitting, have someone every week of October share words of affirmation for your pastor, etc.

I'm confident that as you show generous appreciation, it will come back to you many times over through your pastor(s) and their families because they will be filled up with the generous love you've shown them.

We're praying that October will be a highlight of your year as your church overflows with expressions of love.

Blessings,

Pastor Kevin

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL CHECKLIST



It's almost surreal how quickly 2018 seems to have passed. That means, in addition to beginning to plan for the holidays, churches will also be preparing to turn a new page and finalize their financial records. Here's a year-end checklist, to help give some guidance. If you have any questions about any of these procedures or processes, please don't hesitate to contact us at the District Office.

1. Have you given a fair review of salaries and benefits to ensure you are providing properly for your pastor and family?
2. Are you submitting a monthly tithing of your general revenue to the District?
3. Are your bookkeeping and financial records in order?
4. Are your payments current with the Canada Revenue Agency?
5. Are records accurate for issuing receipts?
6. Will your year-end giving receipts be sent before the deadline (February 28 of the calendar year that follows the year of the donation)?
7. Will your T4's be issued before the deadline (February 28)?
8. Is your property and director's insurance sufficient and up to date?
9. Is your policy for receiving, counting, and depositing offerings adhered to so that no one can be improperly accused of misappropriation of funds?
10. Do you have a budget established for next year?
11. Have you ensured that the year of your oil tank is not expired and in good condition?

Again, you have questions regarding any of these items or would like assistance, feel free to contact the District Office (902-895-4212). We would be glad to help.

MYMISSIONS 2018



MYMissions is an opportunity for students to build friendships, learn more about ministry and leadership, and put what they've learned into practice. MYMissions 2018 was a fantastic experience for our students.

Each year our team is as unique as the young people and leaders who are a part of it, and perhaps that's one of the most exciting things as a leader. It's sort of like a box of chocolates - you never really know what you're going to get (to quote the infamous Forrest Gump). This year we had 15 students who were eager to engage in every element of the MYMissions Experience - it was a joy to lead and serve alongside them.

Our training days were occupied with opportunities for our students to build relationships and prepare their hearts for the upcoming ministry week. I'm always grateful for the colleagues who come alongside to share their experience with our students. So on that note, thanks to Pastor Nathan Hill, Mandy Hill, Pastor Zach Sloboda, and Pastor Jim Molloy, for everything they did to help make our training this year one of the best.

EACH YEAR OUR TEAM IS AS UNIQUE AS THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEADERS WHO ARE A PART OF IT, AND PERHAPS THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING THINGS AS A LEADER.

The ministry trip to Yarmouth, NS which followed our training was incredible. Pastor Nathan Hill and his church, Evangel Assembly opened their doors, their homes and their hearts to our team. The week was filled with ministry events within the church and also the community (and all the behind-the-scenes preparation work that goes into them), workshops, flyer distribution, and prayer walks. It was a fantastic week of ministry, and our students were deeply impacted by it.

Over the past five years, 50 students from 16 churches have participated in MYMissions. Many of those students have attended in multiple years, and have participated in both local and international ministry trips. A few have gone on to Bible College. Some have done other short-term missions experiences. Nearly all are continuing to



grow in their relationship with God and serve within their local church.

MYMissions exists to help students grow closer to God and have a deeper understanding of what it looks like to lead by serving and to serve with humility. Students often speak about stepping out of the 'comfort zones' because they have opportunities to stretch their faith and do new things. One of the most exciting elements of MYMissions for me comes once the program is over and the students have all returned home (and that's not because of the long over due nap that follows!). Even from a distance (since our students come from all over the Maritimes), it's exciting to see how they return home excited about God has done in their lives, encouraging other students in the faith, stepping deeper into ministry, and serving their church.

So, pastors and board members, can I ask you for a favour? Could you take a couple of minutes and ask yourselves who, in your church or youth group, you can encourage to be part of this life-transforming experience in 2019? We want to invest in your students, and have them return to your church deeply committed to God, and more passionate and equipped to serve. Perhaps your church doesn't have a youth group, but that's ok. Many of our students come from churches that don't have regular youth events or youth leaders. We believe MYMissions is a key to spiritual growth and development as a leader.

2018 MYMissions

- 15** STUDENTS
- 6** CHURCHES REPRESENTED
- 12** WORKSHOPS
- 11** MINISTRY EVENTS

WHAT THE STUDENTS ARE SAYING

“MYMissions is a life changing experience, it helps you step out of your comfort zone and learn to trust the process. You learn so much about yourself and what it means to be a good leader. The hardest part of MYM is going home because you make a bunch of new friends that become more like family by the end of the two weeks!

MYMissions helped me understand how to be a servant and helped me be more confident in myself.

MYMissions is one of the best experiences that you will ever have in your life! You will learn so many things and your relationship with Jesus will be strengthened drastically!

Even if it seems as if it's going to be hard, God will give you the strength and boldness to do it. It was the best two weeks of my life.

It really impacted my life and it was amazing to meet so many new friends that share the same love for Jesus and who have a strong relationship with him.”

WE WANT TO INVEST IN YOUR STUDENTS, AND HAVE THEM RETURN TO YOUR CHURCH DEEPLY COMMITTED TO GOD, AND MORE PASSIONATE AND EQUIPPED TO SERVE.

For more information about MYMissions contact Rebecca - rharnum@maritimepaoc.org

UPDATED: NEXT GENERATION EVENTS AGE POLICY



Earlier this year, the District Executive approved the following age requirements for our Next Generation events. We felt it was necessary to clarify how old students could be to attend our District events after receiving several questions about the requirements from parents and ministry leaders.

Maritime Youth Convention (MYC)

In order for any student to attend MYC, they must be at least 12 years old by the start of the event, or they must have completed the grade six school year. Student delegates younger than 18 years old must be chaperoned by an adult who is at least 21 years old. The maximum age that a student delegate can be in order to attend MYC is 21 years old. Attendees over 21 years old must be District-approved chaperones or staff.

Youth Camp

In order for a student to attend Youth Camp, they must be at least 12 years old by the start of the camp week, or they must have completed the grade six school year. Persons older than 19 years old by the start of the camp week cannot attend the Youth Camp as campers.

Kids Camp

In order for a child to attend Kids Camp, they must be at least 7 years old by the start of the camp week, or they must have completed the grade two school year. Children older than 12 years old by the start of the camp week cannot attend the camp as campers.

MYMissions

In order for a student to attend Level 1 (Local), they must be at least 13 years old by the start of MYMissions or have completed the grade seven school year. For a student to participate in Level 2 (International) they must be at least 14 years old or have completed grade nine. Persons older than 18 years old by the start of Level 1 cannot attend MYMissions as students.

Activate

In order for a student to attend Activate, they must have completed the grade eleven school year by the start of Activate. Persons older than 25 years old cannot attend Activate as a participant.

Please pass this information on to your parents and ministry leaders. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact Jim Molloy at jmolloy@maritimepaoc.org.

SUMMER MINISTRY STRATEGY



**BY REV. NATHAN HILL
EVANGEL ASSEMBLY, YARMOUTH, NS
NATHAN@EVANGELYARMOUTH.COM**

How many summer interns does it take to operate a successful community outreach program? At Evangel Assembly in Yarmouth, NS, it took the combined efforts three talented individuals: Natasha Stewart (B.A. in process, Crandall University); Taylor Cook (B.Th. in process, Kingswood University); and Joshua Maedel (B.Th. in process, Vanguard College). None of us knew what we were getting ourselves into, but when the provincial government responded favourably to our funding request and the board of Evangel added additional funds to this program, we jumped in with both feet!

The vision behind our summer strategy was to provide creative programming for children and families. At the same time, this would allow some of our core volunteers the ability to step back from the reins and enjoy being with the children and families of our community without having to care for the nuts and bolts of building a program from the ground up.

We had three specific priorities for our summer program, and we assigned one priority to each intern. Natasha

Stewart is a talented wordsmith and an incredibly organized young woman—she handled communications and promotions as well as providing an update to our Plan to Protect policy. Taylor Cook is loved by children and has a natural ability to connect with them. He developed and implemented our first ever Play Café each Tuesday morning. Joshua Maedel has been highly involved in planning and executing mid-week outreach events at his local church in Ontario, and so he developed and implemented our bi-weekly Wacky Wednesday program. Wacky Wednesday is an opportunity for families and children from our community to gather for various outside activities at Evangel—complete with a free parent café.

The three interns delivered flyers and promotional materials to every home that had attended Play Café or Wacky Wednesday on a bi-weekly basis, which only enhanced our relationship and exposure within the community of Yarmouth.

Having the additional leaders on staff for the summer allowed Evangel to participate in a few other events that



would have been difficult to implement otherwise.

These included a July 1st church picnic and open-air service; a Sunday gathering on the Yarmouth waterfront in partnership with the local Coal Shed Festival; and various activities with Stephanie and Mario Borsato's church plant in Clare, Eglise du Phare.

Evangel also had the opportunity to host the MYMissions team this summer, integrating many more hands into our summer strategy for one week. Together with the three interns, the MYMissions team blitzed our key neighbourhoods with flyers, enhanced the events taking place at Play Café, and assisted with a Wacky Wednesday. In addition to this, the team performed several dramas in our Sunday gatherings, lead a youth rally, and held a very well attended kids carnival at the Meteghan Family Fun Park near Eglise du Phare in Clare.

No strategy is worth its effort and money if it does not bear fruit—thankfully, this strategy has fruit to back it up. Before this year, our summer strategy for children and families consisted of a week-long VBS. That's pretty much it. In doing that, we lost so much momentum and relationship with our community families over the long months from May to September. This Summer, we took

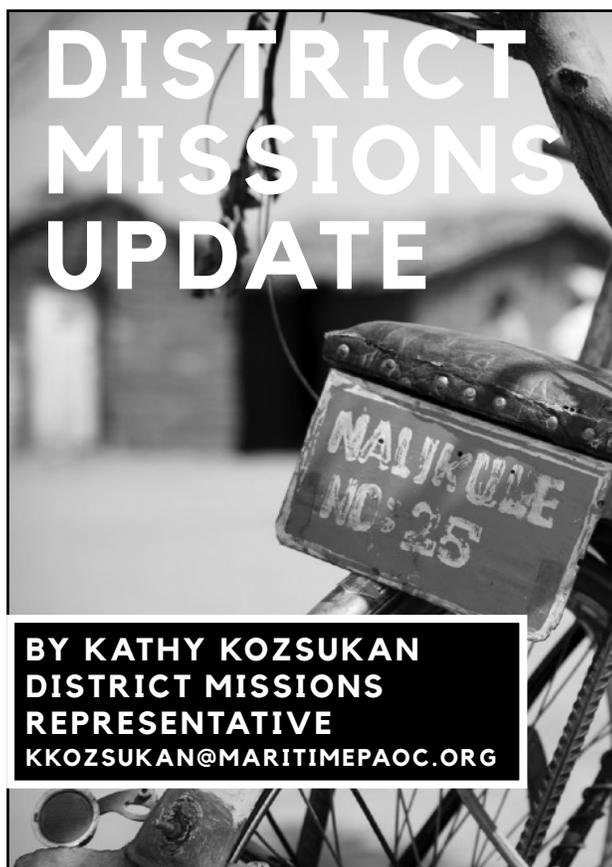
the effort and budget we'd put into a VBS and stretched it out into six Wacky Wednesday events over the course of the summer, which kept Evangel fresh in the minds of the community all summer instead of just one week. Add Play Café, regular flyer distribution, and special events to this strategy, and we saw 80% of families attending our summer programs coming from the community, adding dozens of new families to our connections list.

Now that the interns have returned to school, we launch back into our usual mid-week family night that is back in the hands of our in-house volunteers. **But we are launching differently this fall—with increased connections and with momentum and anticipation from the community that we would not have had without the efforts of our summer interns and our summer strategy.** This summer was a win for Evangel, a win for the community of Yarmouth, NS, and a win for the Kingdom!

I'm already dreaming about Evangel's 2019 summer intern strategy, and I encourage you to dream about a summer intern strategy for your church and community as well. But you'll have to find your own interns—I'd like to keep mine!

NO STRATEGY IS WORTH ITS EFFORT AND MONEY IF IT DOES NOT BEAR FRUIT...THIS SUMMER WAS A WIN FOR EVANGEL, A WIN FOR THE COMMUNITY OF YARMOUTH, AND A WIN FOR THE KINGDOM!





It has been a great Summer and Fall here in the Maritimes.

I was able to meet up with Harlyn and Helene Purdy twice this Summer, once at Camp Evangeline, where Gary and I heard Harlyn preach (and it's always nice to have lunch with good friends at Masstown Market!) We met the Purdy's once again at the District Office along with Helen MacMinn and Jim Molloy. That meeting was a great time of catching up and prayer together.

Helen is still working on projects for TLC from Canada in preparation for her January to April time in Kenya again in 2019. Harlyn and Helen are working on setting up a ministry to the Yao people of Malawi, the Bible school, and handling field rep duties. Praise God that the Purdy's work visas have been renewed.

In addition to these meetings, I have been working some with Prasad and Dawn Samson, and they have made some good connections both in this District and in Ontario. They will return to India in late October.

I've also recently met with Heather (Boudreau) and Ryan DeWeerd and their family. The DeWeerds are Global Workers in the Dominican Republic. Heather is from Yarmouth. The DeWeerd's ministered in both Saint John and Yarmouth during their visit to the Maritimes.

BOARD BEST PRACTICES

DO YOU WANT A RECEIPT FOR THAT?

Improper issuing of donation receipts has gotten a few charities in trouble. Be cautious and careful when issuing receipts. Do not issue a receipt unless you are certain of the exact value of the donation (ie. the exact cash amount, or something in writing that shows the true value - like a legitimate and official appraisal). Never give a receipt for someone's donation of time or work. Never give receipts for donated gift cards. Never give a receipt for donations that, in the end, are for another organization. Never give a receipt when the funds are given are in exchange for goods or services.

LET'S GET POLITICAL?

Sure, there are a lot of concerns with many of the political issues of the day - and you've probably got some concerns about the behaviours and/or philosophies of some politicians. Tread carefully. There are some limits on what charities (especially churches) can do in the political arena. Remember, churches are not permitted to publicly endorse a particular candidate, nor are they are they permitted to invite a particular candidate for public office to speak to the congregation without also inviting the others to do likewise. Churches are also not permitted to give money or gifts to a candidate or political party. A person, acting as a representative of a church, is not permitted to attend a political fundraiser for a candidate or party. Lastly, using the charity's website to post (or link to) statements made by a third party that support a candidate and party (or oppose a candidate or party) are prohibited.

Be socially active, but be cautious and stay within the limitations. Remember, political issues do not easily fit within your stated charitable purposes - the ones you have presented to the government. Before you get too deeply into any political arena, do some research and operate accordingly.



MINISTRY APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

A ministry of Maritime PAOC



LAUNCHING SOON!

CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION ABOUT
HOSTING A MINISTRY APPRENTICE

INFO@MARITIMEPAOC.ORG