

The STANSFORD Family

Heritage Baptist Church, Marystown, NL



James 5:16b *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*

The first week of July we sent out our summer update letter. One of the prayer requests that we listed was that we needed a newer van for our family vehicle. Some of you must have prayed as soon as you got our letter on the afternoon of July 5th! That evening our son, Joshua, saw a van for sale on Facebook, and when we contacted the owner, we learned that he lived within walking distance of our house. When we went to look at the van the next day, Boyd had actually met the owner before while playing hockey. The van was purchased, inspected, and registered in our name the same day. Praise the Lord for answered prayer! (We'd like to know who prayed!! We have more requests for you!!! haha)

We had also asked that you pray for our Vacation Bible School. We were able to minister to 15 children during the 3 days of VBS. For the closing rally on Sunday morning, several of the children brought their parents and grandparents. We had 8 first-time visitors in that service. One young man professed salvation during the week, and we were able to make several good contacts which we can follow up on.

The week after VBS, we used our new van to take a trip to Nova Scotia. We visited with Sarah's brother, Pastor Jason Homan, in Cape Breton. We thoroughly enjoyed Northside Baptist Church's summer Sunday morning program "Church at the Beach". They have an outdoor service at the local park/beach area that many people from the community attend. That Sunday, we also gave a report at a supporting church. After 20 years of supporting us, we were thrilled to visit with our friends, Pastor & Mrs. Wayne Bray, and say 'Thank You' to Calvary Faith Baptist Church. We then spent a week at Forest Glen Bible Camp, where Boyd preached, and saw the Lord work in the hearts of many of the campers. Several professed faith in Christ during the week. We were also pleased to meet some old friends and make a lot of new ones.

Upon our return to Newfoundland, we began preparing for our week of TEEN & FAMILY CAMP. We had around 70 people registered from across the island. Pastor Mark Alcock was our guest preacher for the week and the Lord used his messages in a special way in our hearts. All of the churches from the island were represented, and each of the pastors and their wives helped with some aspect of the camp – with either the child, teen or adult program. It was a great time of spiritual renewal and refreshing!

This past week we said "So long" to three 18-year-old young ladies from our church. They have all begun their college/university courses. We look forward to seeing them all again at Christmas time! Next week, Boyd and Joshua are travelling to Vancouver to attend the national preacher's conference. They will take time to visit a couple of supporting churches in the area as well as catch up with some friends.

Our fall schedule will include some special anniversary services in October. We will begin a discipleship course with some new believers. We are also praying about starting some men's and ladies' ministries. Our Youth Hour has dwindled in attendance, so we are praying for the Lord to help us know the next steps to take with this ministry. We still have a core group of people that attend our Sunday services, and though the number is small, we are thankful for their faithfulness. We pray that the Lord will help them grow and mature in their faith.

We are so thankful for the many wonderful opportunities the Lord has given us. We are grateful for His protection and provision. We are now looking forward to the fall season and praying for fruit from our labours. Thank you so much for continuing to support us prayerfully and financially. We are striving to be faithful to the Lord and His work, and we thank you for your help and encouragement. May the Lord bless you as you serve Him.

Serving the Rock of Ages on the Rock of Newfoundland,
Boyd, Sarah, Joshua, Amy, Carly, Levi, and Kalyrn Stansford

Sent by: Greater Vancouver Baptist Church
Learn more about us at hbcmarystown.com