

ANNUAL CHURCH REPORT!

May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023

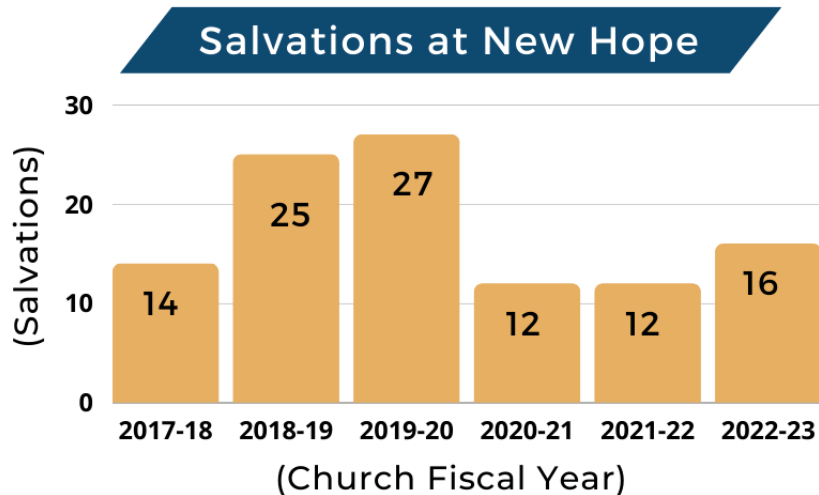
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16 Salvations!

Every light 'lit' on our HOPE sign (Kentville & Kingston) represents someone's decision to ask Jesus into their heart!



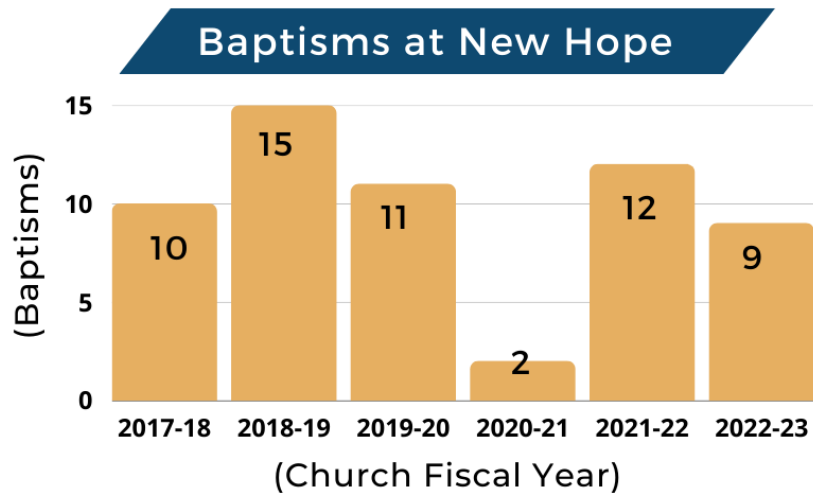
“May the God of **HOPE** fill you with all joy and peace as you **TRUST HIM**, so that you may overflow with **HOPE** by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 15:13

9 Baptisms!



On Sunday, Aug. 28 we baptized 7 PEOPLE at Lake George during our annual 'BBQ & Baptisms' outdoor service!



“ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was **raised** from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live **NEW LIVES**. ”
Romans 6:4



RAISED TO LIFE IN CHRIST!

Our Vision!



We exist to spread the **HOPE** of Jesus Christ through a loving **COMMUNITY** as we **GROW** in our relationship and likeness of Him.

Motto... "a hope-filled community"



HOPE

Because of Jesus we have **HOPE** for forgiveness and a bright future with Him in Heaven for all eternity!

(Romans 5:5)



COMMUNITY

Because of Jesus we belong to a loving **COMMUNITY** that encourages, loves and supports one another!

(Romans 12:9-13)



GROWTH

Because of Jesus we lead others to accept Jesus into their heart and we seek to **GROW** in our likeness of Him.

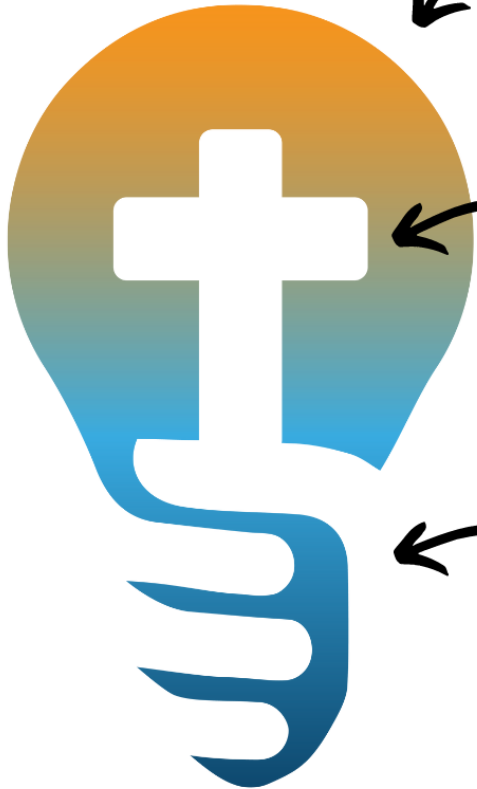
(Ephesians 5:1-2)

It takes all the people of God, doing all work of God, to reach all the people **FOR GOD!**



New Logo!

Because of who God is there are no hopeless situations...
but there are HOPEFUL SOLUTIONS in Jesus' name!



LIGHT BULB Jesus said, *"I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."* (John 8:12)

- There is a better/more fulfilling way to live found in Jesus. When we surrender our life and follow Jesus (walk in His light) it becomes brighter and more clear that His ways are right and He keeps us from walking in darkness and making a mess of our lives.

CROSS *"But God showed His great love for us by sending Jesus to die for us while we were still sinners. (Romans 5:8)*

- If it weren't for Jesus' loving sacrifice on the cross in which He paid the price/penalty of our sin, and offered forgiveness of sins, we would have NO HOPE... When we accept Jesus into our heart as personal Lord & Saviour, we are forgiven, adopted into the family of God, and we experience HIS HOPE & LIGHT in our life.

HAND Jesus said, *"You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others so that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven."* (Matt. 5:14-16)

- The hand represents those who trust & follow Jesus. Jesus is OUR Lord & Saviour, and He is OUR LIGHT & HOPE. But Jesus doesn't want us to keep this hope to ourselves... He wants us to SHINE BRIGHTLY for God and take the hope of Jesus to others!

Kingston location!

418 Markland Road, Kingston, NS
(*Next to Home Hardware)

est. October 25, 2018

66

AVG. SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

(* 25% increase from last year!)

MINISTRIES

**HOPE HUDDLES, HOPE YOUTH, HOPE KIDS,
PRAYER MEETINGS, OUTREACH PROJECTS
& BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK!**

NEW SPACE!

Special thanks to Glenn MacLean, Dan Simoneau, George Banman, Doug Morse, Bob Sealby, Jason Chesley, Bob Lyle, Raya Duggan & Dave Hazelwood for their time, effort and donations to provide this wonderful space!!



Thank you



Pastor Sharon & Dan Simoneau

We want to express our appreciation to Pastor Sharon & Dan for their faithful commitment to serve God & the Kingston location since it started in 2018!! Their last Sunday is July 3 where Pastor Sharon will become the 'Pastor' at Westchester Wesleyan Church. We will miss their servant hearts, generous spirits, passion for Jesus and great sense of humour :) Thank you for leading us well and being examples of Christ in word and action!

1 CHURCH IN TWO LOCATIONS!

3rd Location Coming!

We believe God is calling us to continue to spread the **HOPE** of Jesus!

WINDSOR, NS

Windsor is a town located in Hants County, and is a service centre for the western part of the county. It is situated on Highway 101 with a population of 3,600+

It is known as “*the little town of big firsts*”, the birthplace of Hockey in Canada, home to the world's largest pumpkins and the oldest agricultural fair in North America.

NEXT STEPS...

- 1.) PRAY for God's guidance & direction.
- 2.) CONSIDER how you may support this next location (launch team, finances, etc.)

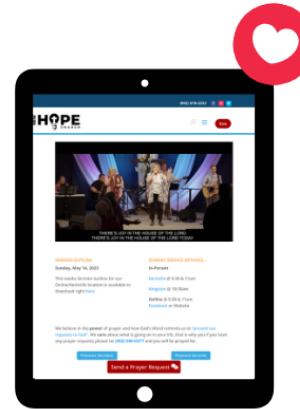
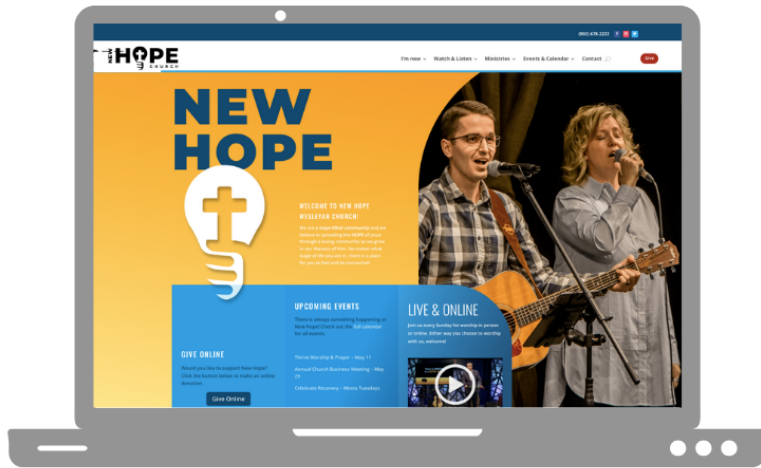


FALL 2024-25 (anticipated launch date)

(*For more info, please contact: pastorscott@nhwchurch.ca)

New Website!

www.nhwchurch.ca



On our Website you can...

- Watch 'Sunday Services' & 'Previous Sermons'.
- View 'who' we are, what we 'believe', and our 'vision'.
- Find out what 'ministries' we offer & what 'events' are coming up.
- Give 'financially' to the ministries at New Hope + local/global missions.

***Special thanks to Pastor Dan for overseeing the launch of our new website!**

STAY UP-TO-DATE!

Stats & Online!

We thank the Lord for the ability to **stay connected** with others through in-person & online options!



Kentville: 153 Avg. Sunday Attendance
16% increase from last year!



Kingston: 66 Avg. Sunday Attendance
25% increase from last year!



Facebook: 988 Followers
9% increase from last year!



Facebook LIVE: 30 Avg. Sunday Viewers
New Hope Wesleyan Church



Instagram: 248 Followers
8% increase from last year!



Spotify: 42 Followers
950% increase from last year!



E-Newsletter: 211 Contacts (*54% Open Rate)
11% increase from last year!



Online



Outreach!



111 SHOEBOXES!

Operation Christmas Child is a hands-on way to bless struggling children in the developing world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, & school supplies. Because of your generosity we were able to bless **111 children** in 2022!

2021: 114 | 2020: 85
2019: 125 | 2018: 90



55 BACKPACKS!

Blessings in a Backpack is a unique school-based feeding program that provides food for the weekend for hungry elementary school children. Because of your generosity we are able to bless **55 kids** at six different elementary schools on a weekly basis!

2021: 53 | 2020: 35



30 HAMPERS!

Christmas Hampers, in partnership with The Salvation Army, is a campaign in which local churches provide a full Christmas meal for those in need. A variety of food items are given in each hamper: Turkey, stuffing, veggies, potatoes, milk, bread, etc. Because of your generosity we blessed **30 families** in our local community!



20 BASKETS!

The Welcome Project is a partnership with The Salvation Army, is a campaign in which local churches provide a full Christmas meal for those in need. A variety of food items are given in each hamper: Turkey, stuffing, veggies, potatoes, milk, bread, etc. Because of your generosity we blessed **30 families** in our local community!

The Welcome Project is a ministry branch based out of Falmouth, NS where it seeks to provide personal items and baby care products for Ukraine Refugees & Immigrants as they transition to life in Nova Scotia. Because of your generosity, we collected **20 baskets** of supplies for those in need!

2022 Christmas Eve Offering

\$22,770!

(2021: \$14,063 / 2020: \$9,685 / 2019: \$11,595)

“

THANK YOU to the many who financially invested into our Christmas Eve Offering! We believe in partnering with and meeting the real life needs of others. As promised, **100%** of the donations continue to go to **intentional acts of kindness** in our community during 2023!

\$600 sponsorship for Kids to attend Kingswood Camp (Aylesford)

\$1000 donation to the Valley Care Pregnancy Centre (Kentville)

\$1000 donation to assist someone on their Missionary Trip

\$1000 donation to assist someone with Medical travel expenses

\$2000+ worth of Gift Cards to those in need (Groceries, Gas, etc.)

\$3000 donation to assist someone with Medical expenses

Ukraine Support, Bereavement Support, Dental Care, Heating Fuel + more in Jesus name!



Community Generosity



Hope Huddles

(est. September 2020)

Hope Huddles are a casual and friendly environment in which we learn, care, serve, and grow in our faith together in a small group!

More simply put; it is the church on a smaller scale.

● SIZE

Typically composed of 6-12 adults + kids.

● FORMAT

Socialize, Meal/Snack, Music, Bible Study and Prayer. (+communion in each season)

● SEASONS

Sept. - Dec. (10 weeks)
Jan. - Mar. (10 weeks)
Apr. - Jn. (10 weeks)

● OUTREACH

2 outreaches in each 'season' to make a positive impact in our local community.

2022 - 2023

15 Huddles = 120 Participants!

OUTREACH: Christmas Caroling, Blessings in a Backpack, Gift Cards, Assisting Family who lost their home in a fire, Coldest Night of the Year walk, Handwritten Cards, Visitations, Sponsorships, Yard Work, Meals + much more!

CHURCH EVENTS!



OUTDOOR MOVIE!

On Sunday, Sept. 4 we held an outdoor movie night at both locations to watch, 'The Parent Trap' on the BIG screen! Many enjoyed the free popcorn, candy, snacks and watched the film from the trunk of their car, lawnchair or blanket!



PUMPKIN BASH!

On Sunday, Oct. 30 we held our annual Pumpkin Bash at both locations with 100+ people! This event included carving pumpkins, pumpkin races or smashing, door prizes, tasty chili + photo booth! There was certainly *gourd* vibes only!



GINGERBREAD BASH!

On Saturday, Dec. 18 we held our annual HopeKids Gingerbread Bash at both locations! This interactive service included... building our own edible nativity scene, playing games, singing carols and learning about the first Christmas!



EGGSTRAVAGANZA!

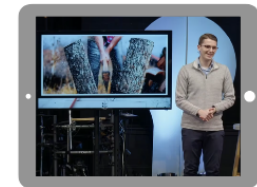
On Saturday, April 8 we hosted 500+ people for Easter Eggstravaganza! There was an egg hunt, cookie decorating, crafts, bouncy castle, face-painting, photo booth, juggling and a free bbq! This was certainly an *egg-cellent* time!



LAUGHS! FRIENDS! MEMORIES!

9 SERMON SERIES!

Did You Miss A Sermon? 
(nhwchurch.ca OR Spotify)



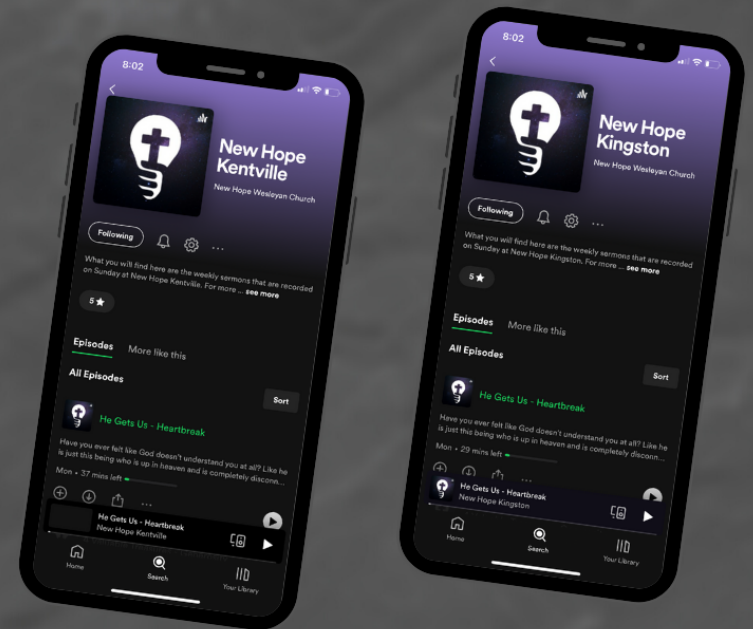
"Your Word is a lamp to GUIDE my feet, and a LIGHT for my path." (Psalm 119:105)

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE!



SERMON PODCAST

Kentville or Kingston Sermons



STEP 1: Search - "New Hope Kentville or Kingston"

STEP 2: Listen to the latest sermon on the go!

TAKE THE MESSAGE WITH YOU!

TXT Prayer Requests...

902-906-0377

"... PRESENT your requests to God." (Phil. 4:6b)



We believe in the POWER of prayer and CARE about what is going on in your life. Therefore, if there is anything we can pray about, please do not hesitate to share your request!

*(*Prayer Requests are prayed for by the Pastoral Staff + forwarded to the Email Prayer Chain.)*

WE WILL PRAY FOR YOU!

STAFF REPORTS!

KENTVILLE

**Pastor Mariah (Children's Pastor) is on Maternity Leave*



Pastor Scott
Lead Pastor



Pastor Jedio
Assistant Pastor



Pastor Dan
Youth & Media



Pastor Megan
Children's Pastor



Pastor Karen
Missions Pastor

KINGSTON

**Pastor Melissa (Assistant Campus Pastor) is on Maternity Leave*



Pastor Dave
Campus Pastor



Pastor Sharon
Assistant Campus Pastor

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

LEAD PASTOR REPORT

Born in Africa in 1940, world-class runner Kipchoge Keino was a legend, earning world records and two Olympic gold medals. Keino registered for three races in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. Few people knew until after the Olympics that doctors had strongly recommended that Keino not compete because of gallstones. However, one hour before the 1,500-meter event, Keino decided to run despite medical orders. If gallstones were not bad enough, the bus he took to the stadium became stuck in traffic and would have made him late for the start of the race. So Keino decided to run two miles to the stadium, just in time to participate in the race. What's even more impressive, Keino won the event more than twenty meters ahead of the reigning champ, Jim Ryun.

It's an incredible true-life story that parallels nicely with the Christian Race. What would happen if we listened to every negative voice or suggestion? We would most likely sit on the sidelines for most of our existence. Some would say Keino was born to race, and in many ways, we have been, too, born (again) to run the race Jesus has set before us.

The Apostle Paul penned this reminder in the Book of Hebrews: *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us."* **Hebrews 12:1 NLT**

"We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." **Hebrews 12:2 NLT**

A successful runner, based on Paul's words in Hebrews 11, is someone who:

- Values role models/mentors who encourage
- Disposes of excess baggage/junk
- Keeps Jesus in sight

It is a great race map and the key to running a successful race. New Hope, run the race with endurance until you cross the finish line and meet our Champion face to face!

The **2022-23 Church Year** experienced a race like no other year for New Hope.

Here are a few highlights from the 2022-23 race (May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023):

- Sunday morning average in-person attendance - **249** (Kentville 183, Kingston 66)
- **16** people accepted Jesus as Lord & Saviour
- **9** people baptized
- **3** child dedications
- Pastor Dave became Lead Campus Pastor at Kingston

- Financial giving increased: regular by **6.5%** & Christmas Eve Offering by **10%**
- Weekly average for Online Sunday Services - **37** (IP addresses)

A few other race highlights:

- Hopehuddles had another great year and continues to be foundational for the life of New Hope. **15 Huddles** gathered in homes throughout the Valley, with approximately **120 people** attending and participating in the weekly Huddles. A prayer request for our Huddle Ministry is for God to raise up more Huddle leaders!

The return of THRIVE has been good fuel for the race too. Two highlights from our monthly THRIVE:

- Healing Service AND Hosted the National Prayer Tour for Canada

Both were significant nights of prayer and worship!

In looking ahead, the race set out before us does have a few hurdles to overcome:

- Recruitment/retention of volunteers continues to be a challenge. Most of our ministries need more volunteers.
- A giving thrust that would eliminate our current Kentville mortgage, replace the leaking roof and launch another New Hope location.
- Serious traction for a third location. (Windsor)

Stay tuned as the leadership at New Hope actively engages initiatives to help with these hurdles.

These are good days for New Hope, God is moving, and there is a high sense of optimism. It is certainly not time to sit in the stands or on a bus stuck in traffic. Now is the time to run the race before us. Timothy writes some great words about running.

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.” **2 Timothy 4:7 NLT**

“And now the prize awaits me - the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.” **2 Timothy 4:8 NLT**

Remember, the race you are running is not singular. It is a race that involves God and others.

In closing, C.S. Lewis offered this thought about life's race. *“Now God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other.”*

There is no other, only God and God alone. I am looking forward to the race in 2023-24!

Sincerely,

Scott Prime

Pastor Scott Prime

(pastorscott@nhwchurch.ca)

ASSISTANT PASTOR REPORT

New Hope Family, it is a great privilege to serve as your Assistant Pastor this past church fiscal year. Thank you for making my service to God and His Church a truly rewarding experience! Thank you to Pastor Scott, our incredible office & pastoral staff, the church board, and to the entire church family for supporting, encouraging, and expressing how much you appreciate Mariah & I. We feel motivated to give our best to God, His Church, and our community.

I have had the joy of being involved in many positive ministry events and experiences such as:

- Preached **14** Sunday sermons (10 - Kentville | 4 - Kingston) I always enjoy sharing and unpacking God's Word in the most practical ways I can.
- Witnessing **7** people publicly express their faith through baptisms on Sunday, August 28 at our annual summer BBQ & Baptisms event (Hennigar Cottage, Ayelsford).
- Witnessing the response of those who financially invested into our special offering during our Christmas Eve Services. We raised **\$22,770** for '*intentional acts of kindness*' in 2023 for our local communities!
- Overseeing the design and launch of our **NEW church logo** that we revealed in January 2023. This logo was inspired by our Hope Sign (lobby).

Two personal highlights for me this were...

- The birth of our beautiful healthy daughter, **Nora Carol Elliott**, on Nov. 14, 2022. We want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for all the love and support we have received through meals, gifts and cards. Thank you also to Linda Isnor & Heather Hockley for the thoughtful baby shower – we love our church family!
- After two years of 'praying & searching' we thank the Lord that He provided a **house** for our family in the Centerville community. We look forward to raising our family here.

I have responsibility of overseeing the following areas: Worship Ministry, First Impressions, Promotional/Church Materials, Co-Lead the Staff Meetings, and In-House Documents/Procedures. Here are a few highlights...

Worship Ministry

- I continue to oversee the service orders, choosing of songs, incorporating creative elements, recruitment, and scheduling of worship team members for our Sunday Services in Kentville & Kingston. (*Pastor Dave oversees the worship team in Kingston).
- I had the privilege to worship lead the music for 40 Sundays (34 - Kentville / 6 - Kingston). It is my intent to point people to worship and encounter our loving God through a number of new and older songs.

(continued)

- a) I am very thankful to Alex (Sarah) Sanford who skilfully serve as one of our worship leaders at our Kentville & Kingston locations. We are blessed by their commitment, and to have them faithfully serve God and our church family!
- b) Special thank you to Marlee Dietert & Lindsay Ward, who have been co-worship leaders and passionately led our church family in worship at our Kentville location.
- **Something new...** In September 2022, I transitioned responsibility to Pastor Dave to oversee the Kingston worship team: scheduling & recruitment. I am very grateful to Pastor Dave for his faithful leadership, and his incredible worshipful spirit to lead our Kingston family in worship.
- We have **30** worship team members between Kentville & Kingston and I am very grateful for their commitment to serve and give God their best in worship. We are very blessed to have them skilfully serving!
 - a) Pastor Dave recruited 3 new members to the worship team and 2 new members to the soundbooth/tech team for Kingston. Woohoo!
 - b) We purchased a new keyboard (May 2022) for our Kingston location and I was very grateful to Pastor Dan for the donation of his gently used drum set that we set up in Kingston.
- I assist Pastor Scott with planning our monthly THRIVE: Worship & Prayer services.
 - a) A special highlight was our April service where we prayed for God's healing whether that was emotionally, spiritually &/or physically. Many people were prayed for; this was a very moving service.
- I was excited to oversee the planning of our family-fun event, 'Carols & Desserts' (Dec. 4, 2022) at our Kentville location. This event included singing carols, funny interactive moments, prizes & festive deserts!
 - a) Special thank you to members of the Kentville & Kingston worship team, along with Linda Isnor and her team for providing the delicious festive desserts!
- I oversaw the planning of our **Christmas Eve Services** at both locations.
 - a) (Dec. 23, 2022 - Kingston) I was pleased to watch the Kingston worship team skilfully and passionately lead the music for this service.
 - b) (Dec. 24, 2022 - Kentville) I was honoured to share the stage with Emmanulle Kinsman as she performed a special worshipful dance to the song I sang, "*The Grace of God With Us*". I also was very grateful for Colleen Gerrits who painted a beautiful depiction of the night Jesus was born!
 - c) I also enjoyed being part of the Christmas Eve Promo-Video where I overdramatized the day my daughter Nora was going to be born at the Valley Regional Hospital. Special thanks to Pastor Dan for recording/editing and his humorous suggestions
- Special thank you to Eric & Joanne Mitchell for allowing us to 'record' in their living room, Pastor Dan for recording/editing, Alex & Sarah Sanford, Shari Prime and Pastor Scott for all their help with the music for our Online Only Service on Sunday, Dec. 25th

(continued)

- I oversaw the planning of our **Easter Weekend Services**.
 - a) Good Friday: I participated by leading the music and sharing a devotional thought about the immense suffering Jesus endured b/c he loves us! Special thank you to Heather Hockley & Linda Isnor for providing the refreshments in the lobby afterwards!
 - b) Easter Sunday: Cardboard testimonies (special thanks to Pastor Karen), and I also enjoyed being part of a special music video, "*Who You Are To Me*" with the talented Marlee Dietert & Alex Sanford. Special thanks to Pastor Dan for all his time and effort to edit/record this special video.
- I am so so grateful to Dan Simoneau for his creativity, time and effort to implement **6** stage designs for Kentville & Kingston. Special thanks to Wayne & Linda Isnor, Mariah Elliott, Heather Hockley, Nicholas Ward and so many others for their time, input and practical support!

First Impressions

- It is my privilege to oversee and support the important ministries of our Greeters and Ushers at our Kentville location. Thank you to the many who served so faithfully in these ministries by genuinely welcoming others to our church family!! We welcomed 2 new members to the greeters ministry.
- **Something new...** I transitioned responsibility of overseeing our churches social media, graphic design and website to the very capable hands of Pastor Dan in March 2023. Releasing this responsibility has drastically freed up a lot of my time to focus on other important ministry matters.
- **Something new...** I was blown away when our church was blessed with 2 AED Machines: 1 for Kentville and 1 for Kingston. Thank you so much to the 2 donor's for this thoughtful donation!
 - a) We offered a Kentville training session (Oct. 24th) by a professional on how to properly use this piece of medical equipment; 15 leaders attended. (*Kingston training coming soon).
- **Something new...** I assisted Pastor Scott with ordering/setting up Offering Boxes throughout the church.
- I assisted Pastor Megan by designing a HopeKids brochure.
- Special thanks to Linda Isnor & Heather Hockley for their time and effort to creatively/festively design our Kentville lobby for Christmas.

Church Events

- Planned our 'BBQ & Baptisms' event (Aug. 28th) with 80 people in attendance.
 - a) Special thank you to Geoff & Jodi Henniger for hosting this event on their beautiful lakefront property along with Linda Isnor and her team to help serve the BBQ!
- Assisted Pastor Mariah with our 'Outdoor Movie Night' (Sept. 4th)
- Assisted Pastor Megan with the Gingerbread Bash (Dec. 18th) and Eggstravaganza (Apr. 8th)

In addition to the above responsibilities, I also had the privilege of...

- I was honoured to officiate the funeral service of Bertha Drysdale (Aug. 25th). My sincere condolences and continued love & support to Linda & Wayne Isnor.
- Co-Led, with Pastor Scott, our weekly Staff meetings.
- Attended and participated in our monthly Board meetings.
- Assisted Pastor Scott with the extra preaching responsibilities.
- Created and compiled our Annual Church Report document.
- Assisted Pastor Dan with arranging people for special testimony videos.
- Multiple connections with our church family, and meetings with ministry leaders.

Personal Goals (2022-2023 church fiscal year)

- Develop my leadership ability by reading more books and attend a professional development conference.
- Assist Pastor Scott as he gives me more leadership responsibility.
- Organize/Host a “Church Health & Growth” or “Worship” conference.
- Upgrade some of our Kentville & Kingston worship team equipment (stage).
- Continue to empower and equip others so the ministries I oversee are less ‘reliant’ upon me, and are increasingly under the very capable leadership of well-equipped and empowered church members.

I am humbled to transition into my **tenth year** as part of the pastoral staff and church family of New Hope. I consider it a great privilege to serve God, New Hope and our local communities. Thank you for entrusting me with this important position.

This past year has been filled with growth, maturing, challenges, and new experiences. I am continually realizing how much I need the Holy Spirit's empowerment to live a God-honouring life, and produce effective ministry results.

I believe more than ever that **God** is the **source** as well as the **reason for our hope!** Hope is both a gift from God and the natural result of trusting in Him. *Romans 15:13, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”* While it is God who provides hope, it is our continuing confidence of trusting in Him that allows us to experience His joy & peace and overflow with God's hope to others!

Serving with you,

Jedie Elliott

Pastor Jedie Elliott

(pastorjedie@nhwchurch.ca)

YOUTH & MEDIA REPORT

New Hope family another year has gone by and once again it has been a year filled with some unexpected challenges but I am excited for where we are now and where we are going as a church! We have seen a number of incredible things happen this pas year and God has very much been faithful.

Hope Youth (Kentville & Kingston)

Here are some quick stats about Hope Youth this past year...

- 2 Graduates
- 2 Baptisms
- 7 Decisions to follow Jesus
- 22 Average Weekly Attendance
- 43 Different teens have attended a youth event at lease once

This past summer our youth group attended the one day one con event. Our group of 6 joined 800 other teens and leaders in a day of worship/games and teaching in what was our first large group event post pandemic. It was an incredible day together and emphasized the need for community. In the fall a group of 4 of us travelled to Kingswood University for Encounter weekend. This was also a great time connecting with teens and leaders across the maritimes. When we launched youth in the fall we saw a large influx of new middle school students in Kingston. We presented the gospel to the group in the fall and had 7 teens make a decision to follow Jesus! We also had a missions night where we were able to donate over 50 items to the local food bank.

One of the challenges with the growth in our group was keeping control of the group as they were mostly new to youth and we were much larger than we had previously been. We were lucky to find a new leader and have been running the youth alpha program which has given our youth nights much more structure. Going forward when we have completed Alpha we will keep this format as it has helped create a much more structured youth night and helped us control the larger group.

I would ask you to pray for the youth group. That we would see the teens of New Hope fall in love with Jesus and be a beacon of Hope for our community. I also would ask you to pray for the teens who attend youth but their families do not attend church. That they would be the spark in their home that ignites a flame for Jesus.

Media

- 30 Average Livestream Viewership (Sunday Morning)
- 350 Average reach per service

This year we continued to livestream our weekly services at New Hope. We also added the option to listen to the

(continued)

audio version of not only the Kentville campus sermon but the Kingston campus sermon as well. These audio versions are available on Spotify and on Apple Podcast.

This year we recorded a number of remote videos. Some of the highlights for me were the Christmas Eve promo video as well as our mothers day video. We also recorded a special song for Easter, the video for that song was recorded out at Bernadines barn which brought back many memories from my first Christmas at New Hope where we recorded at the barn. That music video had by far the most engagement of any video we released this year. We have also continued recording our announcements weekly.

We recorded a special service this year for Christmas Day as we were “Online only” A special thank you to Eric and Joanne Mitchell who allowed us to take over their living room for a day as we recorded an entire service remotely. In particular it was a fun challenge figuring out how to record the audio for the music.

Website

I also partnered with a company called ‘ehDesign’ this past year to launch a new website. Part of this process included bringing in a photographer to help us have professional pictures for the website. I now maintain the site regularly as part of my weekly tasks. This was a long process that at times I felt unsure we would ever cross that finish line but I am happy with the final product.

I want to say thank you to all who have supported me in my time at New Hope and I continue to be excited for what is coming next and hope you will join me on the journey.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Burman

Pastor Dan Burman

(pastordan@nhwchurch.ca)

CHILDREN'S PASTOR REPORT

Being part of New Hope has been a big blessing to Aaron and myself this past year and we are so happy to be in this wonderful church community.

***Please note** that I was one of the Assistant Campus Pastor's in Kingston from *May 2021-August 2022*. I then shadowed under Pastor Mariah for Children's Ministry & in *October 2022* I became the temporary Children's Pastor. This is my role until she returns from maternity leave.

HopeKids

- Planning Sunday morning.
- Recruiting new leaders.
- Scheduling leaders and handing out curriculum every month.
- Weekly emails and monthly Facebook posts.
- Decorating the HopeKids rooms in Kingston and Kentville for holidays/seasons.

While in Kingston:

- I was the point person if anyone had questions about HopeKids or wanted to get involved, they came to me.
- Taught about once per month.
- Set up the new shelving in the HopeKids room with help from Pastor Dave.

While in Kentville:

- I attend HopeKids almost every service. I usually lead the discussions, an activity, and the worship.
- Conducted a HopeKids moment during the Family service on Sunday, July 31st. We gave out ice cream at the end of the service.
- Attended a Plan to Protect meeting over Zoom on October 15th.
- Attended a Plan to Protect meeting with our leaders on October 23rd and 25th.
- Christmas Activities: Decorated Hope Meadow and Kingston HopeKids. Prepared take-home Advent Calendar activities. Made mugs and cards for all our leaders. Created a HopeKids music video.
- Carols and Desserts (December 4th): Read The Legend of the Candy Cane on stage with the kids.
- The Gingerbread Bash (December 18th): Pastor Mariah helped a lot before going on maternity leave. We had almost 100 people show up between both locations! We used the same curriculum as last year. We received lots of donations from the church! Heather Hockley helped with putting together the gingerbread house containers (and more!).
- Christmas Eve: Pastor Dan and I recorded the countdown. We had one service in Kingston and two in Kentville. I helped set up the egg nog and hot apple cider after each service.
- Christmas Day: We pre-recorded the service. I read a story my family would read together every Christmas.

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- Pastor Jodie and I put together a brochure for HopeKids in January. We give this to new families so they can know all the important information for Sunday morning. We decided to do this instead of explaining everything during their first sign-in because it can get hectic and they won't remember everything we tell them. This helps them to refer back to what we've explained.
- Started a monthly Memory Verse Challenge in February at both locations. Each week, the children can bring their Bibles, find our monthly verse by themselves, and/or recite the verse by memory in order to gain points. At the end of the month, we draw for a prize at each service. The kids in Kentville have really taken to this and are excited to win the prizes. We are still trying to entice the kids in Kingston. We have found that a lot of children do not have Bibles, so we are trying to find a way to provide some for them.
- Opened Hope Farm for the first time since Covid on February 5th! This is for kids ages 4-5. We do not have this open on the last Sunday of each month because we do not have enough leaders at the moment.
- Planned/prepped special activities for Christmas, Valentine's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Mothers Day.
- The Easter Eggstravaganza (April 8th). MANY trips to the stores. Created donation posters for both campuses. Went to many businesses to ask for donations for our two prize baskets. Aaron and I picked up over 200 rocks for one of the crafts. Ordered prizes online (my Hope Huddle helped to fill over 1200 eggs with prizes and 220 packages of jellybeans!) Edited and printed 220 Easter Storybooks. With the help three awesome leaders, we filled 220: Take-home bags, Cups with sprinkles, Small bags with candy, and Bags of jellybeans. Planned and bought supplies for 7 activity tables. Booked a bouncy castle. Recruited leaders. We had over 200 kids, approximately 100 adults! It was packed and chaotic, but we had a great time and the kids had a blast! Some of these families have started coming to New Hope! This could not have been done without the 20+ leaders that tirelessly helped with this event. **Thank you!** And a very special **thank you** to Heather Hockley. She worked countless hours cutting, prepping, filling, and brainstorming. I don't know what I would have done without her. She is a blessing to this church and all ministries!
- Pastor Scott and I interviewed Bronwyn Knowlton on April 27th, and she started working as our Summer Intern on May 2nd! We are very excited to have her. She will be doing some creative jobs and planning some events and activities for our HopeKids this Summer.
- Planned a HopeKids promo video in collaboration with Pastor Dan, which will be presented sometime in May or June. This will help the congregation understand the WHY of HopeKids and how to get involved.
- The kids at both campuses are fun to be with and ask very good questions about Jesus. They are very smart and want to dive deeper in their faith, which is awesome! I love working with them!

Sunday Involvement

While in Kingston:

- Preached about once per month.

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- Set up the coffee and tea.
- Presented the announcements multiple times.
- Conducted Communion multiple times.
- Helped with a BBQ and bouncy castle on May 1st to celebrate the end of the season.
- Attended Pizza with the Pastors on June 5th. We had 10 people there!
- Helped with a BBQ on July 17th to celebrate Pastors Dave, Pastor Melissa, and Asa joining New Hope! I am so glad they are here; They are doing a wonderful job in Kingston!

While in Kentville:

- Regularly teach and lead HopeKids.
- Conducted Baby Dedications: Asa James Tysick (September 4th), Zyla Ariah Rodrigues (February 19th).
- Helped with the Back to School Bash on Sept. 18th. We had a BBQ, face painting, prizes, balloon animals.
- Helped to plan the Pumpkin Bash on October 30th: I received over 150 pumpkins for FREE from a shop in Centerville! They told us to contact them again in 2023.
- Attended Pizza with the Pastors on January 29th (11 new people) and May 7th (5 new people).
- Preached part of the sermon at the Good Friday service (April 7th). Preached on May 21st.

HopeYouth

While in Kingston:

- We had approximately 6 youth attend each week. In September, we began to grow! I would help with Kentville and Kingston each week until June.

While in Kentville:

- We had approximately 4 youth attend each week. In September, we regularly had 2 youth. As of May 2023, are starting to grow with 5 youth that come on Monday night! I currently only help in Kentville. We took three teens to One Con on June 4th at The Rock Church in Sackville. On Sept. 2nd, I took two youth out to lunch.
- We have awesome teens at both campuses. It is a joy to grow closer to them & teach about Gods love.

HopeHuddles

While in Kingston:

- Helped to oversee the Kingston Hope Huddles along with Pastor Scott. When someone needed a group, they came to me. Held a Huddle Leader's Meeting on May 15th.
- Was a leader of a Huddle that met in Meadowvale. We had 8 adults and 5 kids. We went through topics on Ephesians, the Spiritual Disciplines, and Parenting After God's Own Heart.

While in Kentville:

- Aaron and I participate in Susan and John Amiraults Huddle. It is so nice to be poured in to and I really enjoy the group.

Office Activities

- Attend/Participate in Monday morning staff meetings.
- Regular emails, calls, and text messages from staff and congregants.
- Many trips to stores for supplies.
- Record video announcements multiple times for Sunday morning.
- Write a monthly LBA report.

While in Kingston:

- Cleaned the church. Cleaned and organized the kitchen cabinets.
- Made the schedules for the Ushers/Greeters.
- Had many coffee and lunch meetings with church members and HopeKids leaders.
- Participated in prayer meetings on Wednesday mornings.
- Helped Pastor Mariah organize the HopeKids shelves.
- Guided the men's group with putting up new shelving in the kitchen.
- Decided what decorations to use for the Volunteer Appreciation event that was on June 15th.

While in Kentville:

- Cleaned and organized the staff kitchen with the help of Heather Hockley. Organized the library books in my office. Organized the HopeKids closet multiple times.
- Ordered a new Sign-in table for Kingston's HopeKids area from George Banman. It is beautiful and we love how it turned out!
- Attended multiple lunch and coffee meetings with church members and HopeKids leaders.
- Held a baptism class for two teens in Kingston. I baptized them and one other teen during our Corn Boil and Baptisms party on August 28th!
- Painted the Hope Farm door with chalk paint.
- Attend a Pastor Cluster. This is a monthly meeting organized by the Wesleyan Church. Here, pastors from several churches get together over Zoom to talk about any highs or lows they are going through, and/or go through a book study.
- Attended AED Training with the staff on October 24th.
- Went to the District Gathering at Cornerstone Wesleyan Church in Lower Sackville on November 2nd. Roundtable discussions with 20 other pastors in the area. Discussed 2027 mission of the Wesleyan Church.
- Pastor Scott and I met with and prayed for two families (separately) who needed spiritual guidance.
- Dr. Laurel Buckingham came to our staff meeting on January 30th and we learned about leadership.

Other Involvements

- Attended Beulah Camp: July 3rd – 9th This was my first time at Beulah and I had such a wonderful time! It was so good to be poured into during the chapel services. The speakers knew they were talking to mostly

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pastors, so it was great to hear from people who knew exactly what we go through. I helped in the kitchen multiple times. I went to a Children's Ministry Huddle. Attended District Conference and Ordination service.

- Outdoor Movie Night on Sept. 4th. I helped out in Kingston with Pastor Dave. We played games, gave out prizes, & watched The Parent Trap. We had 35 people there, many of them were new, which is very exciting!
- Helped a Kingston church member move items to a storage container on September 12th.
- Thrive: February 5th, March 5th, April 2nd, and May 11th. I usually help with the slides, conduct the welcome, and/or pray for people. I presented the devotional on March 5th.
- Pastor Appreciation: Supper hosted by a Huddle on October 23rd. It was delicious and fun! Lunch provided by Celebrate Recovery on October 24th. Supper at Kellock's provided by the LBA board on October 27th. Lunch provided by Ralph and Ingrid Hughes. Thank you for all the generosity and love!
- Staff Christmas breakfast at Cora's on December 19th.
- Celebrated the lives of: John Duggan (June 25th). Bertha Drysdale (Aug. 25th). Arlene Freeman (Jan. 12th).
- Wesleyan Church Denominational paperwork.
- Went to the Share Word Global Evangelism Training on March 25th.

What I Hope To Achieve This Year

- Better knowledge of how children's ministry is run. This is still a big learning experience for me, but it has been very eye-opening! Closer relationships with our kids and leaders and recruit more leaders.

Struggles

- We have struggled with finding leaders to help in HopeKids. We are trying to find ways to help people know that this is a safe, fun, and clearly laid out program for our kids and leaders so it will not be an extra weight on the shoulders of our volunteers. Part of this will be done through out HopeKids promotional video, which should be debuted in the next month or so.

Life Events

- Aaron & I moved to our new home in Cambridge on Oct. 26th and we adopted our dog, Chanel, on Nov. 30th!

I want to thank EVERYONE who has helped in any capacity with HopeKids or GEMS. We can't do this ministry without you, and we are so thankful for all your hard work! We look forward to the future and how God will move in the lives of our kids and our leaders.

Sincerely,

Megan Hingley

Pastor Megan Hingley

(pastormegan@nhwchurch.ca)

MISSIONS PASTOR REPORT

Weekly/Monthly Regular Involvement

- Attend/Participate in Monday staff meetings
- Video Announcement recording once or twice a month. Online hosting (Facebook) once a month
- Blessings in a Backpack volunteer schedules, grocery ordering and shopping.
- Leading a Hope Huddle Wednesday evenings
- Starting Point on Sundays
- Congregational prayer (THRIVE) on Sundays a few weeks per month
- GriefShare helper Monday evenings
- Pastoral visits, hospital visits. Phone call follow up with new people
- Pizza with the Pastors
- Food Bank Deliveries
- Co-leader of Seniors group
- Thrive Services

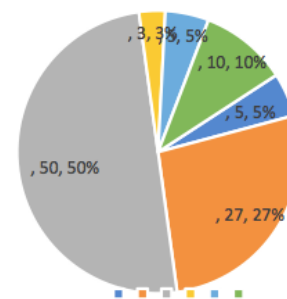
Financial

Our Missions Committee is responsible for distribution of funds to specific local and global partners

- From May 2022 to Oct. 2022, \$3539 to Nathan Moss (Bosnia) and \$1274 to Robin White (Japan), \$354 to World Hope Canada, and \$2471 to local ministries.
- From Nov. 2022 to April 2023 we have distributed \$6120 to these areas: Bosnia, 50%: Nathan and Sarah Moss \$3060 // Global Partners: 10% Japan; Robin and Yoko White \$612 // Sierra Leone World Hope 5% Recovery Center (girls home) \$306 // World Hope International, 5%: Clean water programs, disaster relief general fund \$306 // Local, 27% Fundy Food Bank, Valley Care Pregnancy Center, Valley Connect Outreach Soup Kitchen, VCLA Community Suppers. Total \$1652

Local/Global extras in the last year:

- \$500 to World Hope Ukraine
- \$600 to Turkey/Syria Earthquake fund through World Hope
- \$900 to Amplified Missions



50% Bosnia
27% Local
10% Global Partner
5% Girls Home Sierra Leone
5% World Hope
3% other discretionary

Special Local Projects

- Blessings in a Backpack. This ministry is supported by specific donations from you the church, and other interested parties. Currently we are delivering to 2 schools in the Kentville area with 30 bags, and 4 schools in the Kingston-Middleton area with 25 bags. We have also convinced other local churches to join us with their own BIBP to schools in the area.
- Partnering with the King's Refugee Sponsorship Committee to help bring a Somalian family to Canada (ongoing). New Hope sponsored \$1000
- Partnering with Bill Davenport's Huddle to bring a Syrian Refugee to Canada (ongoing)

Special Outreach Events

- The Welcome Project which was in community partnership to help Ukranian Refugees moving to our area. We collected 20 baskets of supplies last spring. Samaritans Purse shoebox campaign; delivered 111 boxes.
- Christmas Hamper campaign Dec. 21; delivered 22 hampers Kentville, 10 Kingston.

Special Church Events

- Love Atlantic Oct 2. Pumpkin Bash Oct 30. Carols & Desserts Dec. 4. Gingerbread Bash Dec.18. Christmas Eve services
- Compassion Sunday Mar.5, (14 child sponsorships). *Ignite* training (Mar.25, 30 people attended)
- Facilitated Membership Classes, Kingston in Feb. with 2 new members and in Kentville with 6 new members.
- Good Friday service. Easter Eggstravaganza. Easter services

Praise For

- So many faithful givers to the missions ministry. We are making a difference!
- People who donate time and money and resources to help others. You are appreciated!
- The many volunteers behind the scenes who help make these ministries possible.

Challenges

- To keep the MISSION foremost in the eyes of the church, and have them be excited about it!

Hopes for the Future

- Mission Trip with World Hope Canada
- Monthly Compassion Child Sponsorship
- Missionary Update Bulletin for the church X3 per year

It has been a fun and busy year for missions, and I thank you for entrusting me with this role.

In His Service,

Karen Doucette

Pastor Karen Doucette

(pastorkaren@nhwchurch.ca)

CAMPUS PASTOR REPORT

It has been truly an honour to join the New Hope family & pastoral team. Melissa, Asa & I have been overwhelmed by the church's kindness and love they have shown to us since I began in this role on July 11, 2022.

Here are some highlights from the past year:

Preaching

- Preached 31 Sunday sermons.
- In lieu of a sermon on Good Friday, we had seven lay people from our church give reflections. I personally love seeing people be able to use their God-given gifts within Christ's church.

Worship

- Led Sunday morning worship 21 times.
- Welcomed three new members to the worship team and two new members to the tech team.

HopeHuddles

- We currently have four active Hope Huddles in Kingston (roughly 25-30 people).

HopeYouth

- Helped Pastor Dan at the youth group in Kingston this past school year.

Other

- Had our son Asa dedicated on September 4.
- Co-led a movie night with Pastor Megan in September, with over 30 in attendance (most being kids/youth that don't come to the church).
- Oversaw the THRIVE nights (worship & prayer) with the help of Pastor Sharon Simoneau.
- A new church office & HopeKids room was built. Thank you to all those who helped with the project.
- New Hope Kingston was able to gift ten families with a Christmas food hamper through the Salvation Army in Bridgetown. Nine of those families were Ukrainian refugees living in the old barracks in Cornwallis.
- We had someone commit/recommit their life to Christ following the Palm Sunday service!

Since we've arrived, I thank God for the number of new faces we've seen come to Kingston, and now call it "home".

Thank you to all the pastors, along with the congregation in Kingston, for the large part they played in making this pastoral transition successful. Glancing back over this past year, God's faithfulness has been evident. I now look forward to seeing where God will take us in the year to come as we, "*press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called [us]*" (Philippians 3:14).

In His Service,

Dave Tysick

Pastor Dave Tysick

(pastordave@nhwchurch.ca)

ASSISTANT CAMPUS PASTOR REPORT

Greetings to all,

This will be my final annual report from New Hope as I have accepted a position at Westchester Wesleyan Church beginning in July of this year. For this report I have decided to highlight something from each month that really touched my heart. I began the year on a hard note. I had to ask for medical sabbatical leave because of my three concussions that I had suffered over the last year and a half. It had become increasingly difficult to focus on my work and my studies. I was very grateful to Pastor Scott and the LBA for being so compassionate and granting this leave. Unfortunately, in May our friend John Duggan passed away and we were required to come back for his funeral. His passing came both with a great sense of grief and joy. I have never attended a celebration of life that was so full of joy.

I returned to my regular duties in **July** after attending family camp and conference. I am a staunch supporter of family camp and would strongly recommend it for anyone attending New Hope. The preaching is top shelf, and the fellowship is both rejuvenating and just the best of fun. Sadly, in July we also had to say goodbye to Megan and Aaron as they went back to serve at Kentville New Hope.

In **August** on the 28th we had the baptism and BBQ at the Hennigar's cottage on lake George. This is always a time of great fun when both Kentville and Kingston gather together to celebrate. Loads of food and fun.

On **September** 25th Kathy Mutch invited her hope huddle and several other people, myself included, over to her house for a first annual celebration of her deceased husband's life. There were lots of funny stories floating around and great barbecue and just a ton fun. It was clear that Bruce had made a wonderful impression on everyone that he'd met and whose lives he touched. He will be greatly missed.

My highlight for **October** was attending something called the well on the 25th. The well is a gathering of church pastors and leaders to lift one another up in prayer to encourage one another and to learn together how to do ministry. At this particular well we met for lunch afterwards and discussed homelessness in our area. This has become an epidemic in the Valley. We have families living in tents year-round and we were looking for solutions to build micro shelters on church properties. Stay tuned there will be more meetings in the future, and we trust that we will find a solution because we are the church and we're called to help those who cannot help themselves.

On **November** 2nd we had our district gathering in Halifax at Den Guptill's church. The District Superintendent Reverend Peter Moore came to speak to us and challenged us in many different ways. What most stood out for me was Pastor AJ Thomas' challenge to grow closer to God. It was at this meeting that I committed to a weekly Sabbath. I have not looked back since. This has been a no tech, life altering, decision for me.

In **December** the wonderfully generous people of New Hope Kingston donated enough groceries to put together 10 hampers for those who would otherwise not have food for Christmas Day. We partnered with the Salvation Army church in Bridgetown and allowed them to choose who these hampers would go to. Much to our great delight every one of these hampers went to a Ukrainian family. God is so amazing and so good.

On **January** 29th we had our first pizza with the pastors in quite a while. There was a great turn out. Because it had been a while there were over 20 people in attendance and lots and lots of great questions. This is a wonderful welcoming venue for new families to meet the pastors and discover more about the Wesleyan Church and what we stand for.

On **February** 5th we had our first Thrive in a very long time. The atmosphere was charged with the Holy Spirit. There were 18 in attendance. We closed off with a time of anointing and healing prayer. It is so good to meet for corporate prayer once again. We do still continue to meet every week on Wednesday for prayer but somehow the atmosphere seems different at Thrive.

March was a very special month for me. For 11 years now I have been taking ordination courses and I completed them in March. Hallelujah. I will now face an ordination interview in April to determine whether or not I will be ordained in July at family camp.

It was impossible to choose just one exciting factor for **April**, so I chose two. First I accepted my call to Westchester Church. I visited and preached a message for them, and it was clear that this was God's plan. As soon as our home sells and we can set the Parsonage to rights we will begin our ministry there. Last but not least on the 26th of April I passed my ordination interview, and I will be ordained on the 14th of July 2023, praise God.

Humbly Submitted,

Sharon Simoneau

Pastor Sharon Simoneau

(pastorsharon@nhwchurch.ca)



THANK YOU!

Thank you for going above & beyond.



We appreciate the vision, character, time commitment, care, sacrifices, skill, leadership & efforts of all our pastors! **THANK YOU** for shepherding our church family and surrounding communities!

Our deepest Gratitude



WE APPRECIATE YOU!

MINISTRY LEADER REPORTS!



Pastor Megan
Gems Ministry



Mark Gerrits
Cadets Ministry



Juanita & Terri
Celebrate Recovery



Bernadine Gerrits
GriefShare Ministry



Mei Soo (Bee)
Immigrant Connection



Joanne Mitchell
Email Prayer Chain



Doug Morgan
Church Treasurer

*(*No Reports For: Social Director, Men's Ministry or Women's Ministry)*

GEMS MINISTRY REPORT

I have taken over GEMS while Pastor Mariah is on maternity leave.

GEMS stands for "Girls Everywhere Meeting The Saviour!" and is offered to girls in Grades 2-8 on a bi-weekly basis at our Kentville location. This relationship-based program seeks to equip girls to live according to Micah 6:8 "Acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God." This is done through devotionals, small groups, object lessons, games, badges, and crafts, all while learning new and relevant life skills.

GEMS

- We had multiple leader's meetings before we started in October.
- We have 14 girls in our group.
- We had 2 badge nights: Colleen Gerrits taught the girls how to paint on January 27th. Cathy McDonald taught the girls how to decorate cakes on March 10th.
- Regular posts to the GEMS Facebook page.
- Start of the year, Christmas, and end of the year parties. During these parties, we have lots of food, games, and activities. This is so the girls can relax but also so we can get to know them better.

I really enjoy leading this ministry and I am excited to do it again next year! We have wonderful girls that attend and I couldn't ask for better leaders! Thank you to everyone who helped with this important ministry.

Sincerely,

Megan Hingley

Pastor Megan Hingley - GEMS Ministry Leader

CADETS MINISTRY REPORT

We are having another exciting year at Cadets. Our goal is to have fun, play games, learn skills, explore different activities, but most of all, to start or continue building a relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and with each other.

This year our numbers have diminished very slightly. We have 13 boys registered, with an average of 9 attending per meeting. We also have three Adult Counsellors and one Junior Counsellor. So we continue to have a great Cadet to Counsellor ratio.

Our theme this season is "Amazing", based on Joshua 3:5 which says "Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you." On our kick off night we had our own "Amazing Race". Throughout the year we have highlighted some of the amazing things God has done, like: holding back the Jordan River, the miracle of seeds growing into plants, and the amazing transformation of the world when Jesus came to live with us. We have also talked about God searching our hearts and what He is looking for, Jesus as a child and how he was a lot like us, despair and forgiveness.

Our meetings start out with an active game of some sort. We then "fall in" and the Cadets recite their Motto, Verse, Code and Pledge and end with a rousing rendition of our Cadet song, "Living for Jesus". Next, we have the devotional time mentioned above, with a lesson, discussion and prayer. Following devotions, we either stay as a big group or break into smaller groups in order to do badge work or some other exploration and learning of skills or activities. This year we have explored knots and lashes, colour theory, cooking, small gas engines and even went through the whole maple syrup process at Leader Dave's place. Very cool! The typical night is then ended with communal prayer.

We have done some other things as well. In February we took part in The Coldest Night of the Year for the eleventh year running and were able to raise a little over \$800 for Open Arms. We also had our annual Christmas movie/pizza party our last meeting before Christmas.

Cadet Camp is coming up soon, which will be held at Sunken Lake Boy Scout Camp June 23-25. At Cadet Camp we all have lots of fun playing games, swimming, canoeing, fishing, making things, and of course, eating excellent food. We give God thanks for all the boys and counselors that are a part of our Christian Cadet group and hope and pray that everyone involved grows ever deeper in their relationship with Jesus.

I would like to say a big thank you to the leaders, Simon Mainwaring, our newest leader, Dave LaPierre and our junior counsellor, Tavish Gerrits, for all their effort and dedication to the Cadet program. A big thank you also to those who bring the boys to Cadets each week.

Yours In Christ,

Mark Gerrits

Mark Gerrits - Cadets Leader & Head Counsellor

CELEBRATE RECOVERY REPORT

Freedom from your Hurts, Habits and Hang-Ups in Jesus name!

Celebrate Recovery meets Tuesday evenings, 7pm (New Hope Kentville) year round.

Stats

- Since Dec 2020 We have had 17 new people who were presented with the New Comers 101 presentation. This allows people to gain an understanding of the overall program and provides them an opportunity to ask any questions or concerns they might have. Over the last couple months we have been having an average attendance of 10 to 12 people on Tuesday nights.
- Financially, our weekly donations have allowed us to be self supporting. Praise God!

Praise Items

- We feel blessed that God has shown us favor in having CR for well over a decade. We are thankful for the continued support of the Pastoral Team. A special note of gratitude to Doug Morgan who has supported us from the beginning. Doug still assists with the sound system & our music when we need an extra hand. A special thanks to leaders Derek & Terri Wilson who have been active in this program since the beginning.

Special Events

- This past summer we had a BBQ once a month, followed by our regular meeting. We did this in June, July and August. They were well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by those present. It was a delightful fellowship time. Everyone worked well together setting the event up and with the clean up after.
- In December we enjoyed a Christmas social. We had a potluck followed by a program of carol singing. Alex and Sarah Sanford, led the music and singing. This is the third year that Alex and Sarah have helped us with our program. After having Covid restrictions for two years, it was a delight to meet together in this way. After the social we had our regular Tuesday night meeting. In the large group share, we watched Skit Guys as a change from our usual Testimony/step study presentation.

Projects Completed

- We have no new projects. However, we continue to advertise our weekly meetings in the Grapevine and on Valley events listing. We also continue to put up informative posters with tear slips in various locations.

Challenges

- This year we have been facing a difficult challenge. Our ministry leader, David Hazelwood, stepped down from his position due to health concerns. David has been in this position for 4 years. He was a dedicated, committed leader who showed concern for the welfare of each person who attended the program. He is greatly missed and we are all praying that God will favor him with renewed health.
- This presently leaves us with four leaders, 3 women and one man. Although, through the grace of God, we

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have been having our weekly meetings, the reality is this can not continue long term. Thus far, 5 months has passed with the four of us keeping the CR program working. CR is a heavy commitment as we hold meetings every week. We do not take any time off not even at Christmas or during the summer months.

- We need more leaders. We appreciate the New Hope Ministry team who has posted our need for leaders each Sunday. So far no one has stepped forward. We initially had hope that someone who once was a leader would come back to help. So far no one has. We have approached the participants in both the ladies and men group to see if anyone was interested in taking a step study. However no one showed an interest in leading. To be the CR Leader one has to finish a 12 step study. The study takes several months to complete.

Hopes For The Future

- Present leaders and participants desire for CR to continue. All realize the value of this program. All agree that God uses CR to transform lives. God is in control and we believe our prayers will be answered.

In Christ,

Juanita McCready & Terri Wilson

Juanita McCready & Terri Wilson - Celebrate Recovery Ministry Leaders (2 of 4)

GRIEFSHARE MINISTRY REPORT

People find themselves in a lonely and vulnerable position when a loved one dies. GriefShare offers practical tips and hope to those grieving. It is a Biblically based 13 week program that deals with different aspects of grief. One comment we hear over and over again from participants is that they felt so alone before joining with others who are travelling the grief journey. So many of these folks express their appreciation to New Hope for offering GriefShare

Our Fall session of GriefShare began on September 12, 2022. Jason Chesley and Bernadine Gerrits co-facilitated the semester with the faithful help of Pastor Karen and Rudy Halbersma. We had 9 people attend regularly along with the 4 on the leadership team for a total of 13 people at GriefShare most nights. We split into two small groups for discussion time. There were 5 others that dropped in for 2 or 3 sessions. One of our regular participants had a baby in Nov. She would walk over an hour every Monday night to attend!

- We also ran an intimate 'Loss of a Spouse' event for 5 widows within our church family on Sept 17, 2022. We hope to run this one day session on a broader level again this coming Fall.
- On Nov 26, 2022, we held what has become an annual "Surviving The Holidays' event. This is also a one day event which is usually very well received. Sixteen people attended this year.
- After a few month's break, we began the Winter/Spring semester on Feb 6, 2023. The leadership team of Jason, Bernadine, Karen and Rudy continued in their roles. Four participants joined us when we began. The group grew over the next few weeks to 8 regular participants for a total of 12 people gathered to learn, share, and heal at our GriefShare meetings.
- We hope to begin with GriefShare again in Sept. We will have the brand new 4.0 version of the program. As leaders, we are excited about this! We trust it will be every bit as good and even more relevant than the previous one.

We thank you for making this valuable program available to those within our community who are grieving. We ask you to pray for those who have participated in the past and for those who will join us in the future. We also ask you to pray for more folks to be called to our leadership team as some cannot commit to the Fall program.

Blessings,

Bernadine Gerrits

Bernadine Gerrits - GriefShare Ministry Leader

IMMIGRANT CONNECTION REPORT

Background

- Till this day, I'm grateful to Pastor Scott (& pastoral team) who has taken me in under his wings since late Fall 2019 for ministry to Internationals. We gave it a name, Immigrant Connection, the same name adopted by the Wesleyans in the States. Then, the hiatus throughout 2020~2021 when the world was hit by the Covid pandemic. As a result, only a handful among the congregation came to know about this ministry. One family that keeps me going until this day is none other than the Case's. I'm deeply grateful for the Case couple (Lorraine & Doug) in the recent years for opening their home to host newcomers for outreach purpose.

Who & Where

Immigrant Connection ministry is meant to reach out to Internationals that choose to make Canada their new home, be it short term, mid term or long term.

- International students, NSCC and Acadia
- Migrant workers such as nurses, personal support workers, hired for hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation centres, VON, and L'Arche.
- Migrant workers, hired by the food processing plants and other manufacturing plants.
- Migrant workers, hired for the food & beverage sector and agricultural sector such as vineyards, vegetables farms, orchards like apple, blueberries, strawberries, etc.
- In fact, many of them are here to stay to work towards permanent residency.

Thanks to organizations such as Valley Learning Community Association (VCLA), Flying Squirrel Adventures, Kentville Business Community that put out community events all year round to bring people together, newcomers from away or from abroad, and locals as well. By being out there for specific events that draw newcomers, you would see me there mingling with familiar and unfamiliar faces. The Community Supper hosted by VCLA, is one good avenue where I have friendship moments with familiar faces. Over time, God had orchestrated 'behind the scene' and brought into my path a few good contacts; exceptionally sincere and open to my Christian belief.

Praise Items

It had been a rewarding experience when you received words of affirmation from newcomers; those who had been touched by God through Bee.

- *"Bee is able to listen to the needs of a newcomer, and then give suggestions that could work for you and help you reach your goals."* (Mexican, Feb 2023)
- *"The person I'm talking about here is none than Bee Meisu. You have an impeccable manner. You're such a light in the dark. Thank you for everything you've done."* (Nigerian, Jan 2023)

Back to school: mid-Jan to end May 2023

- Distance Learning (virtual), highly intensive pastoral training for pastors, missionaries and lay leaders. The stress had been acutely intense because of the back-to-back deadlines, week after week throughout the months. As a result, my anxiety and sleep issue had worsened at certain points in time. It took me immense discipline to do the needful to tackle my health issues while doing studies I'm so pleased to share that my last day of school is on the 28th of May. To God, be all praises and all glory!

Special Events

- **2022 Fall BBQ at church** - newcomers, a married couple from HK and a single adult from Nigeria were invited to their first Sunday service at NHW. They are 'born again' believers, and they felt warmly welcomed, and overall experience was positive.
- **Thanksgiving Day** - apart from the international students, the Case had been very generous to host a couple from Singapore for one night. They visited Nova Scotia to have some groundwork done prior to future relocation 'work-in-progress'. The highlight of that day was a testimony given by a newcomer. It was his personal experience of God's miraculous intervention, from homelessness to provision from the Lord. I believe God would do his thing to speak life into these non-believers who were present then
- **Community Supper** - I came to know of a local church doing a community supper on Christmas Day. They meant to open up to the community, including newcomers from abroad. I was over the moon when the group of Mexicans accepted my invitation. The whole Christmas experience was traditionally classical, yet deeply profound because the true meaning of Christmas was being shared. I could see that our Mexican newcomers were mesmerised throughout the service. Some of them said it was their first time hearing these traditional Christmas carols. I trust God for the sowing of seeds in their minds and hearts on that very day (Dec 25, 2022).
- **Lunar New Year** - we had the privilege of having Acadia students with us, two from Malaysia, one from Sri Lanka and one more from Nova Scotia. We had a great time catching up with them, and hearing of their future goals in the short term and long term. I left with each a gift package: a friendship card and Word of God booklet when it was time to say Good-bye. I trusted that the gift would serve as a reminder of God's agape love for each, and that our warm hospitality may lead them to seeking the biblical truth of life.

Special Projects

- **Newcomer in need of housing:** It was in late August that both B.S and I crossed paths at NSCC. Little did I know that God already knew about this man and his predicament. He put me right there for something bigger than what my mind could conceive. He was left 'homeless' due to the worsening of the housing crisis. I did my due diligence and let God do the rest. Miraculously, he landed in a rental property eventually.
- **Solidifying the presence of IC on campus, NSCC Kingstec:** Moving forward, I ask of God's favour that I shall be granted a meeting with the head of Student Services of NSCC, Kingstec campus. Lord's willing, may this come to pass this summer. The goal is to have NSCC recognise Immigrant Connection (IC) as one of their

(continued)

community partners in the long term. May Immigrant Connection be one resource that they can safely rely on, especially for students in critical situations that are beyond their scope of support.

Goals for the New Church Year

- **Mobilizing, Encouraging, Participating:** Praise God for the groundwork already laid in Canada in cities such as Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Welcome Church is a cross-denominational agency, established to engage mainstream churches through webinars/videos/testimonies so that they may catch the heartbeat of Jesus to welcome strangers into our midst. New Hope can tap on the invaluable resources available so as to advocate, equip and gather the like-minded ones to create a welcoming space for friends from around the globe - immigrants, migrant workers and students from the local areas.
- **Intentional Intercessory Prayers:** Prayer is like a lifeline to keep us moving and alive as a church. It is important that God's people take responsibility as intercessors to pray for the pastoral/leadership team and all ministries happening inside and outside the church. One way is to encourage such intercessory prayers through Hope Huddles. Since they are meeting on a weekly basis; they can pray for one particular ministry, one at a time. Possibly, over the span of 7-8 weeks, all ministries may be covered, and then they can repeat the cycle down the road. Another avenue is through Thrive, where ministries can be prayed for. Perhaps, we can have themes like Children for one month, and Internationals for another month.

May the Lord raise up many more intercessors because prayer can help to draw each to be closer and intimate with Christ Jesus. As a church, the more concerted our prayer is for one another, the more the power of the Lord to be manifested, the more healing and deliverance may follow suit. "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's." (2 Chron 20:15)

In Christ,

Mei Soo (Bee)

Mei Soo (Bee) - Immigrant Connection Leader

PRAYER TEAM MINISTRY REPORT

Lord, let me live from day to day,
In such a self-forgetful way,
That even when I kneel to pray,
My prayer will be for others.

Scripture tells us that we are to pray for one another, and also assures us that God hears and answers prayer.

Isaiah 65:24 says, “And it shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and that while they are yet speaking, I will hear.”

We have heard of and seen many prayers answered this past year. Miraculous things God has done in the lives of others. Keep on praying, never give up. God is listening.

We added some new Prayer Warriors to our list this year and now have 59 folks on our Church Prayer Ministry list. Many thanks to all who are faithful in prayer.

If you do not wish to continue or would like to be added to the Prayer Ministry, please email joannemitchell68@gmail.com

Serving Christ Together,

Joanne Mitchell

Joanne Mitchell - Email Prayer Chain (Leader)

FINANCIAL REPORT!

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a CHEERFUL giver.**"

2 Corinthians 9:7

GIVING OPTIONS



IN-PERSON

(Lobby / Office - 'Offering Box')



E-TRANSFER

(Email - give@nhwchurch.ca)



CHURCH APP

(Apple / Google - 'Church Center')



WEBSITE

(www.nhwchurch.ca)



THANK YOU FOR GIVING!

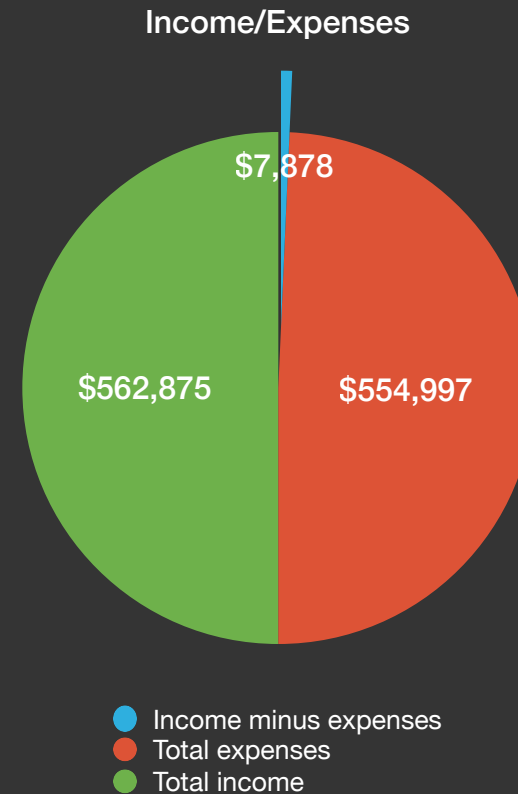
New Hope

2022-23 (Revenue & Expenses)

REVENUE	
Giving	\$472,959
Missions	\$63,990
Building For Life	\$25,926
TOTAL INCOME	\$562,875

EXPENSE	
Ministries	\$50,542
Missions	\$44,184
Wage Costs	\$274,243
Building Costs / Building Rental	\$74,699
Mortgage Costs	\$42,807
Banking Costs	\$6,108
Office Costs	\$15,855
United Stewardship Fund (USF)	\$46,559
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$554,997

DIFFERENCE	
Difference	\$7,878



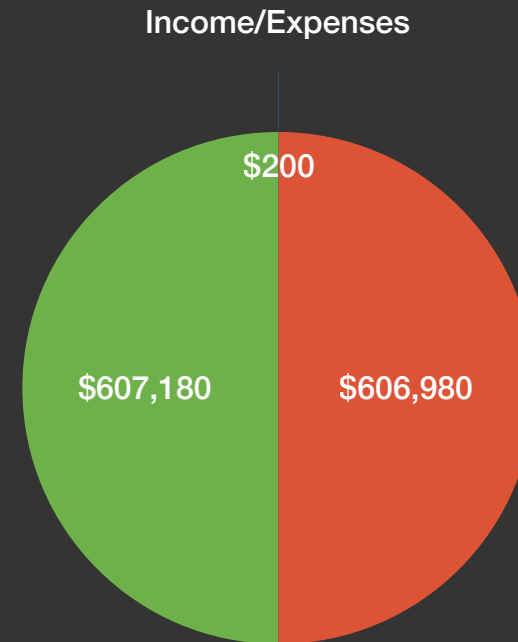
New Hope

2023-24 (Church Budget)

REVENUE	
Giving	\$520,104
Missions	\$40,000
Building For Life	\$46,876
Other	\$200
TOTAL INCOME	\$607,180

EXPENSE	
Ministries	\$48,950
Missions	\$61,500
Wage Costs	\$300,861
Building Costs / Building Rental	\$122,135
Office Costs	\$23,700
United Stewardship Fund (USF)	\$49,834
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$606,980

DIFFERENCE	
Income minus expenses	\$200



- Income minus expenses
- Total expenses
- Total income

CONNECT WITH US!

KENTVILLE & KINGSTON



KENTVILLE
7054 Hwy # 12, Kentville

(Sundays @ 9:30 & 11am)
Hopekids (18 months - age 10)



KINGSTON
418 Markland Rd. Kingston

(Sunday @ 10:30am)
Hopekids (age 4 - 10)



ONLINE OPTIONS
Facebook LIVE // [nhwchurch.ca](https://www.nhwchurch.ca)

(Sundays @ 9:30 & 11am)



902-678-2222
(Church Office)



www.nhwchurch.ca
(Website)



Spotify
(New Hope Kentville or Kingston)



New Hope Wesleyan Church
(Facebook)



@NHWChurch
(Instagram)