



January 2015

God is good; all the time!

Throughout the movie God's Not Dead we saw at FBC, two friends have difficulty starting their car. One friend would say these words "God is good" and his friend would respond "all the time", the friend would then reverse the statement "All the time" in which the other would respond "God is good". The Lord has laid heavily on my heart lately God's sovereignty. If you combine two truths: That God is good all the time and He is sovereign and make that your focus, it gives you peace in the most trying of circumstances. When we examine Jesus life from the manger to the cross these truths stand out. Our circumstances are not the things that sustain us. Faith in an Almighty God and His unfailing love sustains us in Christ Jesus. Allow that to be your focus and all else has less weight on your day. It is Jesus alone who gives us this peace.



Happenings

Greetings from the gang at Open Arms Ministry! We are at the end of our first official month of ministry. We moved here on October 20, 2014 and had our first get-together on November 22. A vision was cast then to a crowd of aprox 50 about how we are open to Christ building His church in this area! Having so many people in our home showed us that this will be a great place to have as a base for Open Arms Ministry!



We have also had the opportunity to give out free hot chocolate and sweets at the annual Parrsboro Christmas Parade. It was well received and gave us an opportunity to share who we are and get to meet and greet a few people.



We joined the local food bank and were able to get some names at Christmas time to hand out some Christmas dinners, turkeys, etc... It is great to get into the community and be a blessing to folks on a regular basis taking opportunities to share the gospel with whomever may want to hear it.

ATTENTION MEN

Open Arms Ministry invites all the men to meet for breakfast at Doug and Lil's place, Saturday the 14th of February at 8:30 am.

This will be a great opportunity to enjoy a hardy breakfast and get to know the men of the area better. So invite a friend and get signed up. There will be a sign up sheet at Doug's or you can contact Denis at dwclay@seasidehighspeed.com or 647-2462.

Hope to see you there! Your brother-in-Christ Denis

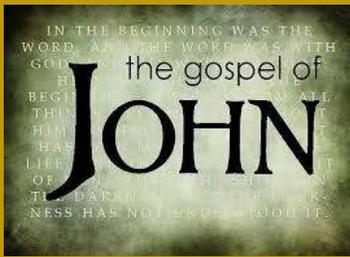
Important Dates:

Every Tuesday at the Lake house—Study of John bible study
Feb 14—Men' Breakfast
Feb 22—Open Arms Gathering at the Parrsboro Band Hall. 6:30 pm
Spring 2015—Children's & Youth Ministry

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

This truth sustains me. I am called with my husband to Parrsboro for God's good and pure purpose. However, transition is hard. I continually pray for God to allow me to use His time wisely as I long to walk alongside women in their day to day joys and struggles. Time is my human struggle as I work fulltime in Truro and can only be here some of the time. In this I trust that God has a purpose.

Yet, it is my joy that God would use me! I am excited to get to know people and in my humanness show the love of Christ.
Love in Christ, Lillian



Book of John Bible Study

We have had three Bible Studies with between 25 and 29 people each time. It has been a mixed crowd from all ages and from Parrsboro and beyond. Our current study is on the book of John. We start with opening prayer followed with a couple of worship songs (thank you Andrew, Sarah and Wanda!) followed with teaching and discussion, then closing in prayer. Andrew Adshade and his guitar is a definite

answer to prayer! His ability to play guitar has blessed us in our worship time. Our discussion time has been great as well. It will take time for everyone to get acquainted but we are not in any rush. I believe this will come naturally. We bought

our house because of the large gathering area and our cup has been full. All the Glory Goes to God!

Prayer and Prayer Needs

Prayer is a struggle for all Christians . We often feel inadequate, not praying as well as others; or inconsistent, feeling guilty that we don't spend enough time with God. We don't know what to say or how to say it so we often defer to repetitive prayers that feel empty and uninspired!

God intends prayer to be an adventure of transparent and honest discovery, a time of sweet communion, healing and power. Through prayer we fall in love with Jesus as we pour out our hearts to Him in ways we cannot with human beings. Nothing is hidden from God's sight; He will not be shocked or surprised by anything. Your heavenly Father doesn't want platitudes, fancy words, or repetitive thoughtless prayers. He wants your heart poured out in truth - your struggles, your joys, your sin, openly and honestly expressed in your own inadequate words. God meets you in prayers like this, and will forgive, comfort, empower and lead you in your circumstances. Jesus loves you, you are His beloved; this is personal for Him, so don't be afraid to let Him in. Keep it simple and keep it real.



-Pray for the upcoming events in February, the men's breakfast and the Open Arms gathering on February 22. May God guide, empower and equip us as we prepare, may many attend, and pray Christ will be glorified through these events.

Coming Round the Bend!

There is such a need for children's and youth ministry! And God sees that need. God willing we are praying to have an active ministry in this area started in the spring. Please pray that workers will be ready for the harvest!

We look forward to June when the men from RBBC in South Carolina come up to help with our basement renovations so we can gather there. It looks like we are going to need it - PRAISE GOD! We also have a crew of young people from the same congregation coming in July to minister to the children and youth in our community. We are eternally grateful to these folks for their partnership in this ministry.

In God's will, the gathering on February 22 will kick off monthly gatherings!

So grateful!

I want to thank all of you who support this ministry prayerfully, financially and practically. We are serving the King of Kings and excited about what He has planned for the future.

In our saviours words: "Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are already white for harvest" (John 4:35) In Christ, Doug



Open Arms Ministry

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