

MARITIME MESSENGER

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Celebrating Together

by Richard Jones
Chief Operating Officer

One of the most challenging aspects many of us have faced during the past 18 months of dealing with COVID is the inability to travel freely across Canadian provincial borders to visit family and friends. Maritime Christian College, with students, staff, alumni, and supporters living in several different Canadian provinces, has faced the same challenges. In a typical year the College would normally hold in-person Leadership Advances, KT Norris Lectures, Graduation, and Convocation ceremonies with attendees from several different provinces. But since March 2020 all these events, with the exception of a combined Graduation/Convocation service in September, have been cancelled.

Another area that has been affected by travel restrictions is the ability for MCC staff and faculty to hold in-person meetings together. So it was with a great anticipation and celebration that the core MCC staff were able to gather recently for their first in-person team meeting since March 2020!

In addition to celebrating being together in person, there were two MCC staff who reached noteworthy milestones in their service to Maritime Christian College. Tom Marshall, Academic Dean, completed his 20th year of working at MCC, and Ellen Arsenault, Administrative Assistant, celebrated her 10th year of full-time service to MCC. This kind of longevity in serving one organization is becoming increasingly rare and I want to thank Tom and Ellen for their faithfulness in serving the mission of the College.



Dr. Jerry Scripture, Director of Online Learning; Richard Jones, Chief Operating Officer; Ellen Arsenault, Administrative Assistant; Tom Marshall, Academic Dean; Penny Ching, Director of Finance and Administration

As we get closer to the end of the year, I would like to remind our supporters about the importance of thinking about “giving in perpetuity”. MCC’s Legacy Fund was set up to be a place where people can make contributions from their financial asset base, not from their regular income (our FRIENDS Program is designed for this ongoing regular giving). As a donor to our Legacy Fund, your gift will be used to fund specific programs that are outside the scope of MCC’s ability to fund within our annual operating budget. We have had several donations directed to it since it was set up just a few months ago, and we will be sharing some of the stories in the near future.

One area of financial giving from our supporters that directly affects students is in the form of bursaries. Due to the generosity of our supporters, MCC was able to offer bursaries to 17 students for the Fall 2021 semester. We often hear from people that the cost of higher education is a friction point that may prevent them from taking courses, so MCC would like to increase the overall amount of funds available for bursaries to remove some of this financial burden from both full-time and part-time students. Increasing the amount of bursary money available to students is one of the areas we hope that the new Legacy Fund can provide additional support towards.

I started my comments about the challenges of traveling in a time of COVID-19, and now I will end with the same theme. I urge everyone who is a supporter of MCC to pray passionately that the mission of the College will not be hindered by this pandemic, and instead that MCC and our churches would be a beacon of hope in a world that seems more confusing and chaotic than ever.

NEVER GIVE UP

by Ben Foreman
2021 Graduation Speaker

Of the major decisions I have made in my life, few have been as profound or impactful as the decision I made to attend Bible College. I did not intend to go into preaching ministry and certainly never imagined I would ever be employed by a Bible College but that is where I ended up. I believe a large part of this is that I have tried to be faithful to where the Lord has called me. I had declared at the end of my high school days that I would not be attending Maritime Christian College specifically and yet the Lord placed such a burden on my heart that I couldn't help but respond. Four years later I began my journey in vocational ministry.



I am thankful that I took the step into Christian higher education. While ministry is not always a walk in the park, it has provided some of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. I still connect with and lean on my contacts from MCC and the school itself to this day.

Even so, I am often discouraged when I hear of Bible Colleges closing or small enrollment numbers. Bible literacy is so important and I do not know

a better method to achieve it other than at least a year devoted to it at Bible College. Even as someone who grew up in the church I am certain I learned more about the Bible in my freshman year at MCC than I had in all the previous years combined.

Heeding a call to study the Bible is important and I challenge you to examine your heart and question if this call has been placed on you. Furthermore, many who are called to study the Bible are also called to vocational ministry. Like the call to Bible College, this is a call many actively ignore as long as they can. As rewarding as ministry can be, it can also be heartbreaking and terribly lonely. Even so, we know that God offers a great reward to those who are faithful and finish the race.

Consider these questions:

- Is God calling you to this?
- Who will reach the generations coming of age today?
- Who will share the hope of Jesus with the people you know?

And to those who have answered the call: Do not give up. Never give up.

2021 Graduates

Katie Reid
Bachelor of Arts
(Bible)



Stephen Weatherby
Bachelor of Arts
(Bible)



5 Things I learned in Bible College

by Stephen Weatherby



1. I learned how to study the Word for myself, not just a list of Christian talking points.

One thing I have come to appreciate about Maritime Christian College, is their commitment to guiding students to study the Word for themselves, and discovering what it says on their own. While Maritime Christian College is a Restoration Movement school, and they showed us the value of the principles of this movement, there was a deep commitment to ensuring that students didn't just have a memorized list of theological principles - students were taught how to find answers in Scripture on their own. I was taught what our movement believes, and taught how to properly exegete and study a text, how to examine a text against the broader context of Scripture, and as a result, to take my findings and come to my own conclusion about what that text means, and only then compare my findings against commentaries and theologians.

Sometimes we did not agree about our findings, but they also taught us that you are allowed to disagree respectfully. I cannot stress enough the immensity and value that those skills have had in my life ever since.

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WHY I GIVE

Along the main hall at Maritime Christian College (MCC) are framed photos of the various classes throughout the years. Men and women who responded to God's call by attending MCC for a Biblical education. Among the students are the faculty and staff who supported them during their studies. Not visible in the photos are the many churches who provided financial support and service opportunities for the students to gain experience. Behind the churches are individuals who have donated to the College and/or provided bursaries to assist students in their quest to know Jesus and be able to communicate Him to others.

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian Church about their gift, *"They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:18b-19, NIV). Giving is a natural part of life in Christ on the corporate and individual level. *"Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet"* (Acts 4:36-37, NIV).

It seems appropriate to let our supporters know how MCC students have been blessed by their generosity:

Oldest Award

- **R. Eldon Hickox Memorial** (3 years of records missing)
 - First given 1976-77 (44 years ago)
 - \$4,490
 - 31 student recipients

Oldest Bursaries

- **New Brunswick** (1 year of records missing)
 - First given in 1973-74 (47 years ago)
 - \$6,750
 - 35 student recipients
- **Louis H. Herring & J. Hubert Beck Memorial**
 - First given in 1977-78 (43 years ago)
 - \$9,402
 - 43 student recipients
- **Central Street Christian Church (Summerside Christian Church)**
 - First given 1977-78 (43 years ago)
 - \$20,000 (\$9,250 Summerside and \$10,750 Central Street)
 - 33 student recipients

Awards and Bursaries Available Today

- \$9,080 from 10 supporters
- \$2,250 from 7 churches
- \$4,190 from 5 churches supporting one of their church members
- \$10,606 from interest on investments donated by 17 supporters and 5 churches

Individuals and Churches Supporting MCC's Ongoing Budget

- 87 Individuals contributed \$58,268 through the monthly FRIENDS Program in 2020
- 54 Individuals contributed \$69,741 in 2020
- 28 Churches contributed \$92,762 in 2020



1961-62



2007-08



2016-17

T O M M A R I T I M E C H R I S T I A N C O L L E G E

Here are a few voices sharing why they give to Maritime Christian College and its students:



Mary Jones

"Giving to MCC has been a family affair since the College was established many years ago," said Mary Jones, Burt's Corner, NB. "My late mother led by example. I give to other charitable organizations, but this is the one which gives me the greatest feeling that my money is being put toward the betterment

of all by training both youth and adults to live by the Bible. Staff at MCC work really hard to make that happen. I can count on more than one hand the number of ministers I have listened to over the years, who have served the congregations in this small community, who have received their training at MCC. Good to have both in-person and on-line lessons at this time."



Bruce Stewart

"When posed with the question 'Why I give to MCC?' two answers come to mind: Firstly it's heritage," said Bruce Stewart, Halifax, NS. "My father was one of the founding board members so MCC had been part of my experience growing up both at home and at Central Christian Church in Charlottetown.

But secondly, and more profoundly, it's spiritual leadership. Since returning to the Maritimes in 1990, my family and I have been blessed to worship at Halifax Christian Church. MCC graduates, Greg Nicholson and, more recently, James Stevenson, have provided spiritual leadership to the congregation throughout those years. Numerous other Maritime churches are likewise blessed by the leadership of MCC graduates. MCC has trained and encouraged church leaders throughout the Maritimes and beyond. This goal is demonstrated even more strongly in the current initiative taken by the College to train disciples. It is for these reasons that I make my monthly contribution to MCC."

Darrell Haines

"We live in a culture where Christianity and its influence are shrinking," Darrell Haines said, Weymouth, NS. "I support MCC, because I believe their goal is to combat this problem by preparing their students for life in the world and equipping them for the questions and challenges they may face. Therefore, we need to support those willing to educate themselves and go deeper in their faith by helping them to connect to God's Word. Learning to meet people with God's Word in a relevant way is the only way we will re-direct a lost world, back to the way we find made in Christ."



Maritime Christian College does not exist in a vacuum. It is individuals and churches who make a difference. These are but a few examples of individuals who support MCC, there are many not mentioned but who matter a great deal to the College. We thank all of you for your ongoing support. If you haven't already, take a moment today and take a step toward helping MCC achieve its mission by becoming a FRIEND, establishing a bursary, or giving to MCC's new Legacy Fund.





Celebrating 101 Years

Helen Lois (Campbell) DIXON, is the middle child of seven children of Wilfred Laurier Campbell & Sadie A. MacNeill, born on the last farm on the Irishtown Road, PEI. Being baptized as an adult at Central Christian Church was a huge venture of faith. She excelled in sewing, knitting and baking for charity events and loved to quietly share her faith.

Now, living in long term care she is blind and frail and has short term memory issues, but she is still a woman of God and remembers Scripture. On December 9, 2021 she turns 101.

Helen loves to receive cards and letters with verses of Scripture because staff read them to her and they can then hear God's Words.

If you would like to send Helen a card:

Helen L. Dixon, Room 324-1, Alexander Place, 329 Parkside Drive, Waterdown, ON L0R 2H0

Continued from page 3

2. I developed a deep and pressing need for Christian service.

MCC expects its students to serve. Of course, when I first came to MCC as a 17 year old, I found these projects to be a nuisance. But over time, I came to the startling and shameful realization that the thing I found to be such a nuisance was not some time-wasting project - it was helping others. By incorporating Christian service into the programs, it forced students to re-evaluate the "me first" attitude prevalent in our culture.

3. I learned more about the world, and the challenges that people face everyday.

Maritime Christian College took us on many trips. We travelled to Toronto, Chicago, New York, New Hampshire, as well as many local trips to places such as Saint John and Halifax. During these trips, we visited different mosques, Buddhist temples, and Hindu temples, as well as many museums and art galleries. We also participated in several ministries, in Canada and the United States, new church plants, and Christian ministries like Restoration House. Many people believe that the best way to protect the faith of young Christians is to insulate them from any challenges to their beliefs, but MCC took the opposite approach, exposing us to as many challenges and differing worldviews as they possibly could, both through physical experiences, and classes such as Worldview Studies, World Religions, and Apologetics. This broadened my perspective of the world, deepened my knowledge of other worldviews and religions, and helped me to see just how powerful and different Christianity is, and the ability of Christ to dramatically change lives.

4. I learned the value of doing something well.

This is not just something that MCC taught me, but

something that I taught myself. Most students complete a degree over 3-4 years, but I did so over 10 years. But during my time as a student, through both assignments and ministry experiences, I learned that it is not good enough to just show up and submit something. One thing that MCC cared about, is that you don't just submit an assignment - you learn from it as well. This was a lesson that took me a long time to learn - many failed assignments, and even a few failed courses! But I have come to understand the value of doing something well. The professors at MCC are concerned that you learn from the assignment, and grow, because they care about you and they care about the future of the church. This means the assignments challenge you, and quality is expected. But the lesson I have learned is the calling as a leader in the church - is a high one. If we are going to serve we must serve well.

5. I developed a deeper and stronger faith than ever before.

This goes without saying, but I still will say it. As a second-generation preacher, I was blessed to have a deeper understanding of Scripture than many other kids growing up. Looking back, I did not realize just how much I did not know about God, His Word, and His calling on not just my life, but all of those who call Him Lord. And in complete honesty, if I had not come to MCC, I do not know if I would still be a Christian today. I had many questions, but no answers. Ten years later, and I still have many questions, and there are so many things I still do not know, but the one thing that has changed is that I am aware of how much I do not know, but I am also aware of how dependent I am on Jesus, and how important and central His calling on my life is to everything that I do. Maritime Christian College helped me to build a rock-solid foundation in my life, the tools to question and test those beliefs, and the ability to compare those beliefs against the other competing worldviews for myself.

Alumni News



It's a Girl

Tayte Willows '17 & Greg Jones
welcomed

Coraline Olive Hattie Jones
on August 11, 2021
7lbs 10oz

In Loving Memory

June 12 ~ September 20, 2021

HATTIE ARMSTRONG - Burt's Corner, NB.....	Mary Jones
MARLENE DUNPHY - Nanaimo, BC.....	Mary Jones
DANNY EHLER - Souris, PE	Donald & Mary Hickox
DAVID ESTEY - Duncan, BC.....	Mary Jones
RAYMOND HAINES - Douglas, NB.....	Hilda Haines
GARNET JONES - Burt's Corner, NB	Mary Jones
BLANCHE W. LEWIS - South Range, NS	Vivian Wright
MARSHALL R. LEWIS - South Carolina, USA	Vivian Wright
BERNADETTE MATHESON - Brudenell, PE	Donald & Mary Hickox
HEATHER (MATHESON) MCLAUGHLIN - Grand Cayman.....	Seraphine Cadotte . Donald & Mary Hickox Rebecca Matheson
MERRILL NICHOLSON - Charlottetown, PE.....	Nauwigewauk Christian Church
MIRIAM PUGH - Burt's Corner, NB	Mary Jones
DAVID SPENCER - Burt's Corner, NB	Sandra Crouse Hollis & Donna Grant
KATHRYN WILCHYNSKI - Charlottetown, PE.....	Jurretta Younker
AVARD J. WRIGHT - Digby, NS	Vivian Wright

Please Note:

Memorial gift donations will be published in the Maritime Messenger and a card sent to the next of kin if the name and address are included with your donation.

In Honour of donations will be recognized with a card sent to the honouree if the name and address are included with your donation.

MARITIME CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Cheques payable to: National Christian
Foundation

Memo: MCC, Fund # 1103649

www.mccpei.com/usa-donations

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Stewardship Policy:

"Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution designated towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for a program or project will be used where needed most."

Join us for an evening of
great food, music and
stories of disciple making.

Thursday, October 21

Canoe Cove Christian Camp, PE



POSTPONED

Business Casual Attire

Tickets \$100

mccpei.com

Maritime Christian College

FALL CELEBRATION DINNER

Due to rising COVID-19 cases in the Maritime Provinces, and to ensure that we can have a fun and healthy event, Maritime Christian College has made the decision to postpone our Fall Celebration Dinner.

We have rescheduled it to May 16, 2022.

MCC is deeply appreciative of the interest received to date for the Celebration Dinner. We encourage our supporters to purchase tickets to the rescheduled event and we will continue to receive items for the silent auction.

Please contact Ellen Arsenault at earsenault@mccpei.com / 902-628-8887 or Tim Cook at tcook@mccpei.com with any questions about tickets or silent auction items.

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