

# Newfoundland News

## O'Brien Family Update

Spring 2018

Dear Friends,

Most of this year we have had low church attendance due to illness and injury. The flues and other infections have hit hard this year. The roads and walkways were quite icy and have just recently become less treacherous. Please pray that those that have been sick will regain their health and that the injured will heal. Our family was not really affected by illness, and we have been praising the Lord for strength to be able to be a blessing to others. Among sick visits, hospital trips, support for those with terminally ill loved ones, special services, guests, activities, and our regular home and church duties, April has been overwhelmingly busy.

On Resurrection Sunday, we had our yearly breakfast at our house before the morning service. We had very few attend but we were grateful for those who did.

I was able to take three teens to a two-day youth activity on the other side of the island. All of them had a good time. One of them had not been to church since Christmas and said that he wanted to start going back to church. The next Sunday he was back. Please pray for this young teen boy. He is unsaved and tender to the Gospel but has many things trying to get him to go the wrong direction.

On the fifteenth, we had a baby dedication service in which 46 were in attendance. Please pray that the mother will be a godly example and that through her and their children the unsaved father will accept Christ. Also, at least 30 of the 46 who attended were unsaved family members. Please pray for the families of our church people to accept Christ.

During the last week of April, we had a pastor from Ontario drop in for a few days and preach the Wednesday service. We enjoyed his visit very much and were greatly encouraged by him. In many places, the joy of Christian fellowship can be easily taken for granted. An abundance of Christian fellowship is not as easily found here; therefore, we cherish those times with our Christian family.

The last Saturday in April was our annual ladies' luncheon. The vicious viruses hadn't given up; and, unfortunately, many people were sick. Despite the flues that kept many home, we still had 12 ladies and 6 little girls with myself and two other guys to do the serving. We were excited that 4 of those ladies were first time visitors.

Many of you will remember that we have been praying for coworkers since we were on deputation. The Lord has answered that request in a most unexpected way. The first week of February we received a video call from a veteran missionary family asking us to pray with them about joining us in the ministry here. As you can imagine, my first reaction was that of excitement mixed with shock. The shock was for two reasons. One, they are already on the mission field on the complete opposite side of the world; and two, they are Matt and Katie Northcutt, which some of you may already know is Emily's brother-in-law and sister. After we got up off the floor, they were able to share the testimony of what God had been doing in their life. After several days of much prayer, the Lord confirmed to both Emily and me that He indeed was orchestrating all these things. We are so excited to be able to work as a team to accomplish a great deal more for the Lord.

Continued...

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There is much to do as we plan and prepare for the addition of another missionary family. The Northcutts also have a great deal to do before arriving in Newfoundland. They will be on their previously scheduled furlough to report to all their churches about their past term on their current field and about their future ministry here in Newfoundland. If you would like to know more about the Northcutts and their testimony please visit their website at [www.northboundnorthcutts.com](http://www.northboundnorthcutts.com).

As always, thank you so much for your support in prayers and finances. We are ever aware that our presence here is nothing of us, but it's because of you, our faithful supporters.

Your Fellow Servants,

*Patrick, Emily, Courtney, Brooke and Autumn O'Brien*