

# Newfoundland News

O'Brien Family



Spring 2020

Dear Friends,

Like many churches around the world, we have had to change the way we do things. Our services have had to be live streamed and ministering to people has had to be by telephone or digital means. It seems our live stream services have been well received because many from Stephenville and Corner Brook have been watching live with many others watching later. We have averaged over 100 views each week. Several who have been watching every Sunday are those who have never been to any service or who have only come for a special event. We have even had a couple of people private message to tell us they are looking forward to services going back to normal because they would like to come.

Brother Northcutt has done an excellent job with the technical side of the live stream, and we have continually had compliments of the professional look of the stream. If it were left to me, I would probably be filmed sideways with no sound! The ladies keep the Sunday school children engaged and excited about church with weekly packages sent to each child. Emily has recorded several Sunday school lessons and sent them in the packages.

We are thankful that spring has finally come to the island, and we are able as a family and extended family to get outside and do some activities. Trout season has opened up and we will hopefully be able to take advantage of that a little more this year.

We have a great deal of things to do, think and pray for the church in Stephenville in the next month or so. As things are right now, it looks as though the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador will be restricting church meetings until July. The length is not our biggest hurdle. Our biggest problem is that we will more than likely have to find a new place to meet since the college we were meeting in will not be holding in person classes for the 2020-2021 school year. It is likely that they will not be allowing the community groups to use their facilities. Thankfully, before the pandemic occurred, we had felt the Lord moving in the direction of finding a building all our own. We have looked at several rental spaces and a building that is up for sale. We will be sending out an update with more detail in the coming weeks. Please be in prayer about this situation. We are excited about the possibilities and look forward to seeing what God will do on New Hope Baptist Church's behalf.

In Christ's Service,

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

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