



Rooted in Christ: Fall Ministry Highlights & Growing Together in Community

What a beautiful season it has been for the children and youth of Billtown Baptist Church! As we look back over the past few months, our hearts are full of gratitude for God's faithfulness and for the many people who continue to invest in the lives of our young people. We are so blessed to be part of a church family and wider community that cares deeply about the next generation.

As summer comes to a close, we are looking forward to settling back into the familiar routines of Sunday School, youth group, school, sports, activities, and all that a new season brings. While summer looked a little different from our regular schedule, it was filled with opportunities to learn, serve, have fun, and grow.

A Wonderful Week of VBS

A highlight of our summer was our Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School! This year's VBS was truly a team effort, and we are so thankful for everyone who helped make it such a special week.

We welcomed 13 children and youth, ranging in age from 1 to 17, and were especially excited to have 5 youth leaders participate. These young leaders helped with groups, activities, and stations. It was wonderful to watch them step forward, take responsibility, and grow in confidence as they served others. We were also blessed by 8 adult volunteers who gave their time, energy, creativity, and encouragement in so many different ways. Together, we explored the theme of the rainforest helping children discover who God is and what His character is like, while using the rainforest — waterfalls, trees, plants, and animals — as the setting for an adventure. The key idea was for children to become rooted in a relationship with God. There was plenty of laughter, learning, creativity, and fellowship throughout the week.

VBS truly reflects what can happen when a church family and the wider community come together. We were also so grateful to have the support of another local church, whose volunteers joined us and helped make

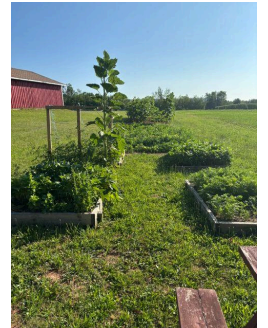
the week even more meaningful. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, prepared, donated, prayed, decorated, cooked, encouraged, or helped behind the scenes. Every contribution, big or small, made a difference, and we are deeply grateful for the many people who came together to make VBS such a special and successful week. It is a wonderful privilege to share in the responsibility of helping our children and youth discover what it means to know Jesus and grow in their relationship with Him.



Faith in Action: Our Community Garden

Earlier this year, our children and youth also had a wonderful opportunity to serve beyond the walls of our church through a Community Garden project with the Northville Farm Heritage Centre. Our young people had the chance to get outside, work together, and quite literally get their hands in the soil! Through this experience, they learned that serving God can take many forms—including planting, caring, sharing, and working together for the benefit of others. The garden became more than a place to grow vegetables. It provided an opportunity for our children and youth to experience service, responsibility, generosity, and a reminder of God's provision.

We are incredibly thankful to the Northville Farm Heritage Centre for partnering with us and for the support and guidance they provided throughout the project. A special thank-you goes to Vernon Mills for the time and care he has given to tending the garden. It has been wonderful to see members of the wider community benefit from what was planted. What a beautiful picture of faith being lived out through action!



ONE Conference in Moncton

This spring, our youth had the opportunity to attend ONE Conference in Moncton, joining hundreds of young people from churches across Atlantic Canada for a weekend focused on faith, worship, fellowship, and growing closer to Jesus. This year's gathering centered around the vision of bringing young people together as one church, worshipping one God. The weekend included powerful worship, teaching and encouragement from speakers, time to connect with other youth, and plenty of fun in the Fun Zone. The weekend also featured a concert from Christian artist Hulvey. It was a wonderful opportunity for our youth to see that they are part of something much bigger than their own church community—to worship alongside other young Christians, build new friendships, and be reminded that they are not alone in their faith journey. We are so thankful for the opportunity to attend and for the church who helped make the weekend possible.



Sunday School Is Back!

As we begin another year of Sunday School, we are excited about the opportunities ahead. We want our classrooms to be places where children and youth feel welcomed, valued, encouraged, and able to grow in their faith. There was much success last year with combined classes throughout the month. These Sundays will be centered around musical worship. Bringing everyone together also gives our older youth the chance to practice leadership and encourage our younger children. Our older youth will continue to participate in the Alpha Youth program. On select Communion Sundays, they will also have the opportunity to serve within the worship service in leadership roles if they would like to participate.

Our elementary and early middle-school students will have opportunities each month to explore the Images of God through art and learn more about what it means to be a Baptist with Benny the Baptist. We are especially excited to welcome two new Sunday School teachers to our team this year! Their willingness to step into this ministry has allowed us to open an additional classroom for our youngest children, including those who are not yet school age. This is such a wonderful opportunity to create a space specifically

designed for our little ones to learn, play, sing, and begin building a foundation of faith in a warm and nurturing environment. We are so thankful for the gift of new teachers and for the growing opportunities this creates for our church to welcome and serve more young families.

A heartfelt thank-you goes to all our Sunday School teachers. Each week, you give your time to prepare lessons, organize activities, encourage our young people, and create meaningful opportunities for them to learn about God. We appreciate you more than words can express!

A Note About Registration

Over the coming months, I will be going through the Children & Youth Ministry registration information we currently have on file. If anything needs to be updated, I will contact you directly. If you have questions about registration or would like more information about our Children & Youth Ministries, please feel free to contact me. If you currently receive this newsletter in paper form but would prefer to receive it by email, please send a message to the email address provided.

Mark Your Calendars!

There are already some special dates, at the end of this newsletter, to look forward to this fall and Christmas season, so mark them on your calendar! We are also continuing to develop relationships with other local churches. We are praying that these connections will lead to opportunities for our children and youth ministries to gather, collaborate, and encourage one another. Keep watching for more information!

Thank You!

Most importantly, thank you. Thank you for praying for our children and youth, encouraging them, volunteering your time, supporting our programs, and helping create a church where young people know they belong. It is a joy and a privilege to walk alongside our children and youth as they discover more about Jesus, develop their faith, and grow in their friendship with God. May God continue to bless our children, youth, families, volunteers, and our entire church family as we journey together in faith. If you need to contact me, don't hesitate to reach out at either my email: angela@billtownbaptist.com or my cell phone (902) 670-0573.

Blessings,
Pastor Angela Pound

IMPORTANT UPCOMING FALL DATES: (Some of the dates may be subject to change or may be dependent on weather).

September 5th: Back to School Community Ice Cream Social @ 2-4 pm. Join us at the church for ice cream cones or sundaes to mark the end of summer and back to school.

September 6th: Sunday School Opening @ 10 am

September 18th: Youth Group Night (in partnership with Kentville Baptist Church) @ 7-9 pm. Join us at Kentville Baptist Church for youth group with other youth groups, for grades 6-12.

September 25th: Bonfire @ 6:30. Join us for a bonfire of hotdogs, smores, songs, skits, and games at Pastor Angela's home (weather permitting).

October 4th: Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7 pm. There will be a spaghetti dinner from 5-7 at the church in support of cancer research. It is a free will donation. If there are any children or youth who would like to help out with the event, please connect with myself or Mark Pound.

October 17th: Pumpkin Carving @ 1:30. Beginning at 1:30 at Billtown Baptist Church we will be pumpkin carving along with times of games and fellowship.

October 23rd-24th: Challenge 2026 (grades 6-12) at the New Minas Baptist Church. More details to come but registration is open starting September 14th so please speak to Pastor Angela if you would like to attend.

November 8th: Youth Worship Night @ Billtown Baptist. Details to follow.

November 14th: Pizza, Ice Cream and Games Night @ 4:30 pm. Bring games to share along with pizza and ice cream provided for supper. While registration is not required it is helpful to know how much to prepare.

November 15th: Family Sunday @ 10 am. We'll be celebrating Family Sunday during our regular worship service. This will be a special opportunity for all ages to worship together from beginning to end, with some new and meaningful ideas incorporated into our time together. We're looking forward to gathering as one church family and creating a worship experience that everyone can enjoy and participate in!

November 28th: Hanging of the Greens @ 7:00 pm (a service to decorate the church, everyone is invited). For those attending they will have an opportunity to participate in the service.

December 13th: Sunday School Christmas Concert @ 10 am - Youth will be performing their Christmas Production during the Sunday Service at 10 am. Everyone is welcome!!

December 19th: Youth Christmas Give Back @ 1:30 pm - we will be creating and assembling Christmas crafts and treats to deliver to Billtown community members.

December 20th: Birthday Party for Jesus/Secret Santa @ 10 am - children will have the opportunity to celebrate Jesus' birthday with a party during SS.

December 20th: Potluck - there will be a potluck following the service.