



April 29, 2005

Dear Supporters,

Greetings from the CSSM Ministries Atlantic Branch office on this sunny and very windy spring day. It is good to see the plants and ground come to life as the sun gets warmer and the days get longer. Each morning I look to see how much my rhubarb has sprung up overnight.

The rhubarb in my back yard is not the only thing that is springing up as spring brings the Banquet season in the Atlantic Branch. My family and I had the privilege to attend the Cape Breton Bible Camp banquet three weekends ago when we went to visit with Danny and Darlene MacLennan and their family. It was great for us to be back in Cape Breton to visit with friends and visit the camp property where we lived for 4 ½ years. It was also a blessing to see the "full house" that night in Millville and see the Lord provide through the giving of His people. That same night our other Nova Scotia camp, Truth for Youth Bible Camp, held a promotional banquet in Coldbrook, NS. The director reported to me the next week that there were more individuals there and a greater offering was taken than the year before, our first year. A week and a half before that I drove to Miramichi, NB to attend and speak at the Miramichi Bible Camp Banquet. Tonight is the Hampton Bible Camp banquet which I hope to be able to attend and the Sandy Cove Bible Camp banquet is in two weeks. Thank you to those of you who pray for traveling safety as we missionaries put on many kilometers.

I also want to say thank you to those of you who have given toward the Branch Office Building loan. In the two past months we have seen \$783 come in specifically to pay down the loan. That brings it down to just under \$8000. We are also very thankful for those of you who give to the Branch General Fund as well as our ministries and missionaries. I take our stewardship of those funds very seriously and try, to the best of my ability, to use them wisely. That is why over 250 of you will be receiving this letter and the prayer guide via email. That is a savings of \$144 if all of those letters had a Canadian destination. I take every effort to save money where we can and also to spend a little if it is going to save us ministry time and make us more effective.

I am sure that some of you are wondering if I have any news or an update on Dale and Margaret Gallagher. Those of you who support them financially through this office would have received my letter of March 28th explaining "that the Atlantic Branch Council has decided not recommend Dale and Margaret Gallagher for another year of extended service with CSSM Ministries." It is unfortunate that the wording of the reasons for that decision was not clear to all readers. I apologize for any undue hurt that it may have caused and ask that anyone with questions or comments feel free to contact me at the Branch Office. Since the writing of that letter there have been a number of steps taken by their son David. In light of these steps and new information that has come to our Branch about support for retired missionaries, CSSM Ministries has decided to extend a "Benevolent Allowance" to Dale and Margaret Gallagher. This allowance is an amount allowed for retired workers of charities if that charity does not have a retirement plan, which CSSM does not. Supporters can send in financial support that will be receipted but we are only allowed to send \$675 per month to the Gallaghers. Anything over that amount would be rolled ahead for the next month. If there is not \$675 there then they would receive what has come in as do all of our field missionaries. If there is more than the \$675 on a monthly basis then we would contact the supporters to see what they wanted done. The benevolent allowance would begin with our June payroll. Until the May payroll we can process whatever comes in. If you or your church has any questions about the Benevolent Allowance please feel free to contact me.

Our home was blessed with a visit from Russell and Lori Smith last week as they were traveling through to his home area (New Hampshire) and then up to New Brunswick Bible Institute to pick up their son Jordan. They are in the midst of planning their summer ministry which will once again be a combination of camp and VBS. This year they are planning on holding some more VBS ministry on the Avalon Peninsula in order to build up the camper base for Newfound Life Bible Camp.

For some time now I have been praying about and talking with the Miramichi Camp Board about moving that camp location. The camp is a long way from present and potential supporters who are unable or uninterested in the drive to the camp. It is also a long way from emergency services. For those reasons a local committee was formed to look for alternative properties. One has been found close to a supporting church less than ½ hour from the city and with access to power. It is exciting to consider a move to a location that would not only enhance the effectiveness of the camp but expand the ministry possibilities. Pray with us as we consider what the Lord would have us to do. Thank you for your prayers and your financial support.

In His Service,

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