

**2012 SUNDAY PRAYER LINK**  
**January – December, 2012**  
Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches

**January 1, 2012**

As ministries start back up in this New Year, please pray for those who are involved in teaching/outreach ministries within our churches (Sunday School, Alpha, mid-week children and youth programs, Worship/Music Directors, small group Bible studies, etc.). Pray that these teachers and leaders may be filled with the Holy Spirit as they teach about and model Jesus. Pray for refreshment for these leaders as they begin a new season after the Christmas break.

**January 8, 2012**

Pray for wisdom, vision and sensitivity to God's Spirit for our Executive Minister, Dr. Peter Reid, as he provides leadership to our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches* in fulfilling our Convention's mission of churches "helping churches grow passionate disciples."

**January 15, 2012**

Please pray for those involved in vocational youth ministry as they continue to minister to the next generation, equip leaders to invest in students, and inspire young people to walk with the Lord. Please pray for protection over their lives and their families, for decisions they need to make, for energy and balance as they continue to serve the Lord in this way.

**January 22, 2012**

Pray for Acadia Divinity College students who are in the final stages of preparation for ordained pastoral ministry and who will be meeting with our Transition Team in upcoming days. Please pray for these students that God will continue to bless them with wisdom, grace and ability.

**January 29, 2012**

Students enrolled in our Convention's *Lay Pastor's Training Program* will meet six different weekends through this year to continue their three year preparation towards trained lay pastoral ministry. Please pray for these men and women as many of them juggle family, work and congregational responsibilities along with their studies.

**February 5, 2012**

The annual Simpson Lectures at *Acadia Divinity College* will take place on February 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> of this week. Guest Lecturer will be Dr. Arthur Boers, Associate Professor at Tyndale University College & Seminary, Toronto. Please pray that these lectures will be an excellent source of inspiration and renewal for pastors and others who attend.

**February 12, 2012**

Please pray for Mr. Andrew Hopper, Interim President of *Crandall University*, as well as its board, faculty, staff and students. Please pray for the university as they build on the strong foundation that was established many years ago. Thank God for His blessing of the students who receive "quality university education firmly rooted in the Christian faith."



**February 19, 2012**

Please pray for the *Board of Ministerial Standards and Education* as it meets this week in Wolfville (February 21<sup>st</sup> – February 23<sup>rd</sup>). Pray that those who appear before the Board will share their Christian experience and Call to ministry with clarity and conviction.

**February 26, 2012**

Please pray for wisdom, discernment and vision for the members of the *Atlantic Baptist Mission Board*, as well as Dr. Malcolm Beckett (Director of ABMB) as he gives leadership in the developing of healthy, disciple-making Atlantic Baptist churches.

**March 4, 2012**

Pray with thanksgiving for the growing ministry of the *Baptist Foundation* as they assist our churches and agencies with financing for new church development, extension projects, and grants to strengthen various ministries of the Convention.

Please also remember in prayer *Atlantic Baptist Senior Citizens' Homes Inc.*, as they continue to provide care to our loved ones in areas of housing and care for seniors.

**March 11, 2012**

Please pray for Mr. Daryl MacKenzie, Director of Operations for our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches*, in his various administrative and financial responsibilities. Pray also for members of staff at our Convention office.

**March 18, 2012**

Please pray for the Transition Team comprised of Dr. Malcolm Beckett, Rev. Greg Jones, Rev. Jerry Horsman & Rev. Elias Mutale. In January, they took over the responsibilities of the Regional Ministry until the transition period is complete.

**March 25, 2012**

There are 21 Associations in our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches*. Please pray for the Moderators and executive members who give leadership to the important work of our Associations.

**April 1, 2012**

Rev. Sam Chaise is the General Secretary for *Canadian Baptist Ministries*. Please pray for physical and spiritual protection for Sam as he gives leadership to this broad and diverse ministry both here in Canada and around the world. (To watch a video of Sam, visit our online channel: [www.vimeo.com/channels/atlanticbaptist](http://www.vimeo.com/channels/atlanticbaptist).)

**April 8, 2012**

*Christ is Risen. Christ is Risen indeed!* Please pray on this Resurrection Sunday that as Christ's people we will live out the full reality of His resurrection and Kingdom in all areas of day-to-day life.

**April 15, 2012**

Be in prayer for the NEXT Conference (Children's Ministry) to be held April 20-21 at Hillside Baptist Church in Moncton, NB. This is a conference for children's ministry workers all about passing our faith on to the NEXT generation.

**April 22, 2012**

Pray for the *Convention Council*, who will be meeting this week at the Convention office in Saint John, as they seek to give leadership on behalf of our churches between annual assemblies. They are preparing for meetings this week at the Convention office in Saint John. Please also pray for Rev. Daniel Walton as he serves as Convention President.

**April 29, 2012**

The Spring Convocation Services for *Crandall University* and *Acadia Divinity College* will be held in the coming weeks: *Crandall University* on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> & *Acadia Divinity College* on Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for the graduates as they seek God's ongoing leading, as well as for the staff and faculty as they prepare for this special day in the lives of graduates, alumni, and students.

**May 6, 2012**

*Springforth*, the largest annual youth conference in Atlantic Canada, will be held this coming weekend – May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> – in Moncton. This year's theme is **COLLIDE**. Offering three simultaneous tracks (Middle School/Jr High; Senior High, and Leaders), an estimated 2000 attendees are expected. Please pray not only for safety of travel but also that this gathering will be instrumental in developing our youth and leaders here in Atlantic Canada.

**May 13, 2012**

Today is Mother's Day. Please pray for Mum's in particular, but also for all women, that they will have the godly wisdom, maturity and fortitude to help shape our homes and communities to be places of protection, nurture and growth for all.

**May 20, 2012**

The *Youth Leader Training Program* is an 18 month certificate program offered by our *Convention* and designed to equip volunteer youth leaders with a basic understanding of youth ministry and youth culture. Please pray for the current class, the students and their instructors, as well as for the upcoming class beginning in September. Pray that through this program the Lord will advance the ministry we do together in the area of reaching youth for Christ.

**May 27, 2012**

Pastors and other church ministry staff, as well as their spouses, will be gathering at the Convention office in Truro NS tomorrow and Tuesday (May 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>) to attend a financial/retirement planning seminar hosted by our Convention's *Pension & Insurance Board*. Please pray that God will give wisdom as they listen to presentations relating to stewardship issues related to preparing for retirement.

Also, pastors who are new to our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches* family will, along with their spouses, gather this week (May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 1<sup>st</sup>) at our Saint John office for two days of orientation and connecting. Please pray that they will feel welcome and will see themselves as a larger team of pastors and churches working together to advance the Kingdom.



**June 3, 2012**

Numerous churches in our *Convention* are making use of 'Natural Church Development', a tool meant to assist congregations in assessing their current congregational health and effectiveness for the Kingdom, and identifying strategic future directions. Please pray for these churches as they seek to use this tool to have a positive impact for the Kingdom.

**June 10, 2012**

Atlantic Baptists own and operate 15 camps throughout Atlantic Canada. Please pray for the Executive Directors of these Camps and for their boards and staff, that through their leadership and vision, campers will have a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ this summer. For a list of camps, visit our website – [www.baptist-atlantic.ca](http://www.baptist-atlantic.ca).

**June 17, 2012**

Today is Father's Day. Please pray for Dad's in particular, but also for all men, that they will have the godly wisdom, maturity and fortitude to help shape our homes and communities to be places of protection, nurture and growth for all.

**June 24, 2012**

Please pray for military chaplains Rev. Gordon Poley and Rev. Barb Putnam who serve Christ and extend His love through their ministry with the Canadian Armed Forces. Please pray for God's wisdom, protection and enabling as they minister the Good News of Jesus Christ with our military's men and women who serve our country.

**July 1, 2012**

Today is Canada Day. Please pray for the leaders of our provinces and of our country as they wrestle with social and moral issues. Pray that they will seek wisdom from God as they carry out the duties of their respective offices. Pray also for leaders in the churches across our Convention as they amiably participate in public dialogue through the grace and Spirit of God.

**July 8, 2012**

The months of July and August are a time when many pastors and lay leaders within our churches take summer vacations. Please pray for those who travel, and that these vacations may be wonderful times for rest, renewal and spiritual replenishment.

**July 15, 2012**

Please pray for Dr. Lois Mitchell, our Director of Public Witness & Social Concern, as she leads our *Convention* in thoughtfully and faithfully serving as Christ's witnesses in today's changing world. Pray for her as she helps us to respond to justice issues both here and around the world.

**July 22, 2012**

Please be in prayer for *Oasis 2012: Refreshment for the Journey* (the Assembly of our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches*) which will take place August 22<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>th</sup> at Crandall University in Moncton, NB. Main speaker will be pastor Rev. Dr. Allan Demond. Worship will be led by Jeff Somers & Band. Plan to join us for a time of refreshment and renewal.



**July 29, 2012**

Pray for the The "Island Adventure Mission Tour" taking place this week on Campobello Island (July 29<sup>th</sup>-Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>). The event is designed for families with young children (preschool to middle school age), but families of all descriptions are welcome to attend!

**August 5, 2012**

Please pray for Rev. Dale Stairs, Dr. Jody Linkletter & Pastor Marion Jamer who together give leadership in the Youth and Family Department of our *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches*. Pray that their work with churches and their leaders will bear much fruit in the lives of the youth and families who are a part of those churches.

**August 12, 2012**

Please pray for the members of our Convention's *Examining Council for Ordination*, as well as those who will come before the Council on the week of Oasis, that the Spirit of the Lord will grant wisdom as the ordination examinations are conducted.

**August 19, 2012**

Pray for our Communications Manager Mr. Andrew Myers as he gives leadership to the Convention in finding new and efficient ways of communicating to our churches and pastors.

**August 26, 2012**

Please pray for Rev. Sandy Sutherland who was appointed as President at Oasis. Pray for her to be filled with God's wisdom, vision and strength as she assumes many new responsibilities of leadership within our *Convention*.

**September 2, 2012**

Please pray for the children's ministries and other ministry groups in our churches that they may grow increasingly passionate about reaching those who need to know Christ as well as leading Christ-followers in a deepening walk with Him. Pray for all the various leaders, teachers and others that they may be strengthened and encouraged in their ministry.

**September 9, 2012**

Please pray for the Presidents of our schools — Rev. Dr. Bruce Fawcett (*Crandall University*) and Rev. Dr. Harry Gardner (*Acadia Divinity College*)— as they fulfill their leadership responsibilities. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, clarity and health.

Please also pray for *Crandall University* as well as *Acadia Divinity College* as they have recently received students for the new academic year. Pray for encouragement, discipline in studies, spiritual growth, and for new friendships for their students.

**September 16, 2012**

Please pray for our youth pastors who will gather together on Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> for the annual Youth Pastors' Summit. This is a time where youth pastors can come together for two days of networking, encouragement, and refreshment. Pray that their time together would be without distractions where they can focus and hear God speaking to them, that they will be strengthened and encouraged in their ministry, and that they will find refreshment.



**September 23, 2012**

Being a PK ('preacher's kid') can sometimes present unique challenges, particularly for children as they enter into their teen years. Approximately 80 clergy teens will gather September 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> at Bayside Camp (NS) for *LINK* ... a time of community, fun, worship, and encouragement in their Christian life. Please pray that the fullness of God will increasingly be revealed to these youth, and that they will be encouraged in their ongoing journey with Christ.

**September 30, 2012**

Many churches choose October as Pastor Appreciation Month, a special time to thoughtfully express appreciation and honour to their Pastor(s) and their families for their hard work and sacrificial dedication. In recognizing the unique nature of their vocational calling, please pray for your Pastor(s) and his or her family asking that God will protect them from unrealistic expectations and pressures and that they will be encouraged and loved by God's people in a manner that will champion them on in being all that God calls them to be.

**October 7, 2012**

Please pray for *Potential Impact* which will be taking place October 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> in Sackville, NB. *Potential Impact* is an opportunity for students in grade 12 to begin to explore whether God may have gifted them and be calling them to prepare for vocational pastoral ministry. Please pray for these students that they will have discerning spirits to sense how the Lord is leading them.

**October 14, 2012**

Pray for our pastors and churches involved in church planting around our region. Our Convention has set a goal to see 65 new congregations birthed by 2025. A key component in the success of these churches will be other churches coming alongside to mentor and lend support. Be open to how God may be calling you to help.

**October 21, 2012**

Pray for our *Convention* support staff. The role they play in the life of our *Convention* may be largely behind the scenes but is so very important for the day-to-day operations of our organization. Pray for them as they carry out these responsibilities as well for their health and their families.

**October 28, 2012**

The annual ministry wives retreat called REFRESH will take place Nov. 2-4 at Bayside Camp near Halifax. Please pray for safety and protection as they travel to and from the retreat and ask that God will richly bless and renew them as they gather together for worship, learning and fun. Please also use this opportunity to pray for and show appreciation for your pastor's spouse, being aware of and responsive to their ongoing need for friendship, encouragement and support within the fellowship of the local church.

**November 4, 2012**

Pray for our larger Baptist family across Canada (Canadian Baptists of Ontario & Quebec, Union D'églises Baptistes Françaises au Canada, and Canadian Baptists of Western Canada), and our work through Canadian Baptist Ministries as well as the Baptist World Alliance. Together we seek to impact our world with the love of Jesus Christ.

**November 11, 2012**

Today is Remembrance Day. May we not only pause to appreciate the great sacrifice of earlier generations to safeguard our country as a place of peace and opportunity, but may we also pray for those who currently serve in our military as well as for leaders of our provinces and our country as they wrestle with contemporary international, social and moral issues. Pray that they will seek wisdom from God as they carry out the duties of their respective positions/offices.

**November 18, 2012**

The approaching month of December can be a particularly lonely and difficult time when in prison. Please pray for our Baptist chaplains who are ministering in Atlantic Canada's correctional system – Rev. Hugh Kirkegaard, Regional Chaplain; Rev. Phil Ferris (Westmorland Institution), Rev. Pauline Coffin (Nova Institution for Women) and Rev. Wilma Janzen (Concilio – St. Luke's Renewal Centre, Springhill, NS).

**November 25, 2012**

As Christmas approaches, please pray for our missionaries including both those who are currently serving in the field as well as those on home assignment. Pray particularly for those who are far away from family members, friends and colleagues. Pray also that their investments may reveal the Gift of the Christ-child within the communities in which they minister.

**December 2, 2012**

Please pray for those who exercise special ministries of compassion. Pray especially for those who are serving as Baptist chaplains in hospitals and other health care facilities throughout Atlantic Canada that they will be strengthened and encouraged in their ministry and that God's Spirit would powerfully be revealed through their caring presence. Please pray too for your local hospital and nursing home chaplains in your vicinity.

**December 9, 2012**

In this period of Advent and Christmas services and programs, numerous individuals in our communities will hear the message of Christmas through word, song and drama. Please pray that hearts and lives will be touched and changed by the message of God's transforming love which is found in and through Jesus Christ, whose birth we again celebrate.

**December 16, 2012**

Opportunities for ethnic ministries are increasing in many of our churches. The Convention through the Ethnic Ministries Working Group is seeking to find ways to resource churches wanting to minister to people that are emigrating to Canada. Pray that these ministries will grow and many will come to faith in Christ.

**December 23, 2012**

Glory to God in the Highest! Let us give praise for the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ, as we rejoice and celebrate with thanksgiving this Special Gift which is Good News for all.



**December 30, 2012**

As we stand at the threshold of another new year, we remember God's blessings and goodness and we pray for the clear leading of the Lord and the Spirit's continued empowering for all of our churches as well as for our ministry partnership that is called the *Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches*.

