

ERIC & EDNA VAUTOUR

New Brunswick, Canada



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BACKGROUND *How do you serve in GCI?* I serve as a bi-vocational pastor/minister to 2 small congregations in New Brunswick, namely Moncton and Saint John. I was ordained as a local elder in 1982 in New Brunswick. I was hired by the church as a full-time minister to work in Montréal from 1989 to December 1996. At that time, because of all the changes occurring in the church, I was transferred back to New Brunswick where I have been serving as a minister ever since.

How has your ministry had an impact on who you are? On who God is to you? Having the privilege to serve in God's ministry has transformed both my wife and I in ways that could not be expected. Having understood over time that Jesus, sent forth by God the Father, is grace and truth has brought us into his freedom. Being liberated from our misunderstanding of the role of the law in our lives has brought a tectonic change in how we perceive God, ourselves, the church and people who are still outside his church. Knowing that we are loved unconditionally by him gives us the strength and the desire to grow in our relationship with him. Being in the ministry has meant that both my wife and I have had to study, learn, meditate and grow along with GCI. We studied the material given to us by this denomination and by other teachers and ministers outside our denomination who are well acquainted and understand Trinitarian theology as supported by God's word. God has widened our horizons to a richness that we did not know existed. God in his graciousness is continuing to increasingly open our minds to his awesomeness, his love, his faithfulness and his magnificent plan for the humanity he loves. As the apostle Paul said so succinctly, Jesus died for us while we were still his enemies. It has not always been an easy road. We faced the challenges life can and does present to us. One of the most difficult things we faced early in this God-given ministry was the enormous paradigm shift in our thinking and the opposition and anger the transformation GCI triggered in so many people we loved. As hard as it was, Looking back, this was all worth it.

Get to Know Eric & Edna



1.

What is a must see attraction where you live?

The Bay of Fundy, close to where we live, has the highest tidal range in the world. There are times during the year that the difference between the high and low tide is 16.3 m or 53.5 feet. There are beautiful locations to visit along the Bay of Fundy notably Hopewell rocks. Another beautiful place which is a must to see is St. Martins and the Fundy Trail Parkway.

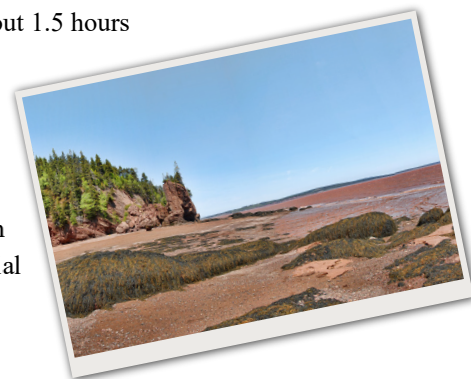
The fall colours in this part of the world are also a beauty to behold. These are two of the highlights but there are many more. We are also in close proximity to beautiful Prince Edward Island which is just about 1.5 hours from the capital, Charlottetown.



2.

What makes your region different than other places in the world?

New Brunswick is the only bilingual province in Canada, English and French being the two official languages.



3.

Favorite scripture?

One Scripture which warms our heart and gives us so much hope is found in 2 Corinthians: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation."

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

4.

How do you experience/feel close to God?

My wife and I are different. I am a morning person and she is not. My time alone in the morning is so very precious to me. Our children are all grown up and away from home. For my wife, she feels close to God during the day when she finds herself alone with God in silence. For her, it is an excellent time to study, pray and meditate on God's word.

