



On Eagle's Wings

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Dear friends,

Thank you for your continued support of, and prayers for, *On Eagle's Wings* and our northern brothers and sisters.

As we continue to work through the ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic, it has become abundantly clear that it will be at least **several months before we can be physically present in northern communities again**. We have been adopting a 'wait and see' approach as governments announced plans to gradually phase in reopening of businesses and services. However, even as some restrictions are being eased, borders within Canada and between Canada and the US remain closed to non-essential travel. The federal government announced yesterday that the Canada-US border will remain closed for another month. Borders in Canada between the northern territories and southern provinces also remain closed, possibly for the remainder of the year. Both Nunavut and the Northwest Territories also have strict limits on indoor gatherings. Gatherings of up to 5 in Nunavut and 10 in the Northwest Territories are permitted only where strict 2m social distancing can be observed. In addition, a second wave of infections is anticipated. None of this is good news.

Our care and concern for the physical, spiritual, and emotional health of our friends in the north—and our volunteers—is, and always has been, paramount. That care led us to avoid making snap decisions early on in the pandemic and to follow God's prompting to wait on His timing rather than cancelling everything outright.

His timing is, as always, perfect! And that brings good news. The **CLAP (Christ Loves All People) Bible Camp curriculum is complete and we will be offering it as a virtual Bible Camp by video**, accompanied by activity packs for the children. We were invited to partner with two northern bishops, Bp. David Lehmann of the Diocese of Caledonia and Bp. Lesley Wheeler-Dame of the Diocese of the Yukon, to create this video Bible Camp. This is incredibly good news in several ways:

- ❖ It will enable us to **reach even more of our communities** in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, northern Alberta, and northern Saskatchewan than we could in person.
- ❖ Bp. David and Bp. Lesley will be able reach out to their communities, which are not traditionally part of the area *On Eagle's Wings* serves. This represents an **expansion of the ministry of *On Eagle's Wings***.

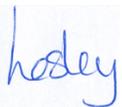
- ❖ The video Bible Camp will be produced **with variations and different levels of online delivery** to meet the needs of communities and families whose internet access may be limited. For example, we will offer DVDs or a memory stick as well as YouTube links.
- ❖ To make the curriculum **easy to use**, we will split it up into small sections that include easy-to-follow, illustrated instructions. We will also **provide kits** of craft supplies.
- ❖ Bp. David has a **seminary student who will help produce the package**. We are looking forward to meeting this young man and to have him help us develop these new models of curriculum delivery.
- ❖ The curriculum is structured in such a way that **families can do as much or as little as they are able**. We recognize that many parents are already stressed by having children at home and being expected to home-school. We also know that people are more adept at some activities than others. Therefore, we have made the curriculum as flexible as possible so that families can choose which activities they do together, as well as when and how they do them.
- ❖ Bible Camp **volunteers can still be part of a CLAP Bible Camp**. There is a place for them to share their gifts and talents to participate in producing the videos.

Bible Camp volunteers are invited to take a video on their phone or tablet of them telling one of the Bible stories—or leading a craft, skit, song or another of the activities—in the curriculum. They will then send us the video and we will compile them. You may remember that we offered a short, similar version of this on our Facebook page and group, and website, during Holy Week.

I am immensely thankful to have this exciting news to share with you and to have a God-given way continue to be present in the northern communities. I anticipate that this will be a springboard for augmenting and adapting our curricula and Bible Camps in the future so that we can serve more communities across the north.

Thank you again for your continued support of *On Eagle's Wings*. Please hold our volunteers, staff, partners, and communities in prayer.

In faith, hope, and trust in Christ,



Rev. Lesley Hand
Executive Director