NCEM Minute-Man call

Supplying Timely Ministry Needs

June 2026

Dear Minute-Man Friends ...

Thank you very much for giving generously to Call #182. As of the end of May, gifts totaled $ 58,382.77. Our Outreach & Church Ministry Fund (OCMF) helps our Fields, Camps, Headquarters, and Bible School with outreach. For example, this past February a couple students from our Keywaytin Discipleship Center went on a ministry trip to Winnipeg, and then on with Tribal Trails host, Conrad Flett, as their mentor and leader. They stopped in at NCEM's Headquarters where they learned a bit about Tribal Trails TV production, and then recorded some of their music for future programs. Thank you for helping make this possible!

This Minute-Man Call (#183) will go towards **Recruitment, Training & Internship Assistance**. Beyond the costs of recruitment, we definitely need and appreciate your prayers that the Lord of the harvest will send forth labourers. As this letter goes to press, I hope to meet with two young couples in Eastern Canada who have shown interest in First Nations ministry. Please pray for encounters like this.

Our annual Candidate Orientation and Training program is costly because we cover travel expenses for instructors and child care workers, as well as their room and board. Topics we taught this year included: Cross-Cultural Ministry, God Our Provider, Ministry Perspective, Animism, Abuse, Suicide Prevention, NCEM Places-Missionaries-Ministries. If you would like to come next spring to help strengthen your outreach to your First Nation friends, you are welcome to come sit in on these classes.

Your Minute-Man gifts also help with Internship Assistance. We are so happy that God is sending us young people each year who want to serve Him. Please pray that they will have a great experience, and will consider becoming life-long missionaries.

Thank you for being a Minute-Man with us!

Jon Siebert

Jon Siebert
NCEM General Director

ncem

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(above photo) Candidates and some of the staff.

CANDIDATE TRAINING

Learning together and serving together

by Christian Zimmermann - NCEM Candidate

When we arrived, Big River Bible Camp was nestled in a beautiful and peaceful snowy idyll. We had rarely seen it like that before as previously we had spent most of our time at the Camp in the summer and fall. After a brief orientation, we moved into our cabin.

Over the next two weeks, the site grew increasingly full, as volunteers, candidates and several friends of the Camp also came to participate in and learn from some of the sessions. The two weeks were packed with an overview of NCEM and its various fields of work, as well as diverse sessions on intercultural work, during which we gained many insights into different tribes. David Lilly's perspective as a Métis was also eye-opening.

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We realized that, coming from Germany, we were dealing with three additional cultures: the culture of the First Nations, which varies from tribe to tribe and region to region, the Canadian culture, and NCEM's own culture.

We also had sessions on topics such as suicide, abuse, and syncretism. All of these topics were covered with helpful background information. The training sessions were rounded out by some films in the evening and testimonies in the morning.

Altogether we look back on two very eventful weeks of training. It is a gift and a blessing that NCEM offers such training, and we are grateful to everyone who participated in the preparation and execution. Thank you to the speakers, cooks, childcare team, and those who provided the facilities.

We left the now-green Camp as the ice on the lake was just beginning to break up.●

by Jon Siebert - NCEM General Director

It was a highlight to hear the testimonies of each of the candidates and several of the staff. Our hearts well up with thanksgiving for how God draws people to Himself out of both good and difficult backgrounds. God has a way of speaking to hearts even through many hurts and disillusionments, bringing healing, and then growth that allows for ministry to others. We know if He can do that with each of us, He can also do that for those we are going to minister to, no matter what their background.

Life didn't always turn out the way they planned.

In the last session, emeritus missionary, Dave Petkau, shared his and his wife's journey in missions with NCEM. It was encouraging to hear about all the ways God has led them over their 40-plus years of ministry. There were surprises and difficulties, and life didn't always turn out the way they planned, but through it all God was very real and gave His wisdom, provision, comfort, and strength. These situations helped prepare them for things they would face in the days ahead.

This was an encouragement for the candidates: David (Elizabeth) Lilly, as he begins leadership at Keywaytin Discipleship Center, and Christian & Paula Zimmermann as they (initially) begin Field Ministry ... that this same God will also go with them and give them all that they have need of in the ministry God has for them.●



Training session with NCEM candidates and friends of Big River Bible Camp.

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