

Victory in Jesus!

He giveth snow like wool: he
scattereth the hoarfrost like
ashes. He casteth forth his
ice like morsels: who can
stand before his cold?

Psalms 147:16 - 17

January 2020

RODDICKTON

Happy New Year! 2019 is now behind us and already the first month of 2020 will soon be history. As we reflect on the old year, we praise God for His faithfulness, giving us confidence that our wonderful Savior will be with us each day of this New Year.

As in other years we are happy to report victories won and prayers answered among the saints. When God's people come together in love and unity, many wonderful blessings follow. The sweet fellowship of the Holy Spirit, mingled with a love and support for our brothers and sisters in Christ, warms our hearts and draws us in a communion with our gracious Lord.

The Christmas celebrations were very enjoyable, leaving us comforted and filled with peace, knowing we have the Messiah in our hearts while living in such an unsettling and troublesome period of time in our world. The only real peace that we have is in Jesus Christ our Lord, the author of peace.

The Ladies Charity Group held their Christmas supper on Thursday, December 5. Delicious food and a great night of fellowship and fun was enjoyed by all.

Our annual Christmas Supper for the church took place on Thursday, December 11. Again, wonderful fellowship, food, fun and games was appreciated and enjoyed. Also everyone joined in for a time of music and singing.

Sunday, December 15, we held a **Sunday school Christmas Open House** session. Parents, grandparents, guardians and friends came to hear great singing and performances by both the primary



and Junior/Senior departments. Afterwards, we were invited downstairs for refreshments, followed by gift exchange. In the evening we attended a beautiful **Christmas program** at Bide Arm.

On Sunday, December 22, instead of regular Sunday school, we invited all the children to visit the **Roddickton House** where different groups performed Christmas songs for the seniors. The Ladies Charity Group had prepared little cakes for each resident that the children happily passed out at the end. They seemed overjoyed to bring our shut-ins a little Christmas cheer!

In the evening we had our annual **Candlelight Service** with Englee and Bide Arm joining us. It was a thrill to see such a large crowd. The evening was filled with beautiful singing by choir, groups, solos

and also congregational selections. A thought provoking poem was read entitled, One Candle.

On Tuesday, December 31, we met at Englee for a combined **Watch Night Service**. Pastor Howard Canning preached a great message using **Luke 16:1,2** as his text. As Christians we are all stewards of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. At the end of life we will all give an account of our stewardship, what we have done with our lives and the gospel that has been entrusted to us. Looking back over the past year and towards a new year, let us make sure we are in good standing with God.

As the days swiftly pass in this New Year of 2020, let us all be encouraged to pray without ceasing for God's divine will to be accomplished in our lives. May we make every day count for something good in the extension of God's Kingdom. As Pastor Chris exhorted us the first Sunday in January, *'if we could all win just one soul each this year, what an accomplishment that would be for God's work!'*

BIDE ARM *"I will remember the works of the Lord."* **Psalm 77:11.** Looking back on 2019 we are reminded that the Lord has been faithful to us through another year. It was a year where we experienced His presence and blessings continually, even in times of sorrow God came along side and upheld us with His righteous right hand.

In September, my wife and I were privileged to accompany Rev. Christopher and Pat Hewlett to Langley, BC, for special meetings. It was an awesome time getting to know and worshipping with the saints at Langley. Our hearts were truly blessed, and it was just another reminder that God is so good.



On December 15, we held a Christmas program with the theme “**Christmas, It’s About The Cross.**” We were encouraged to watch such a large crowd come to see the Sunday school children and teachers do their recitations and songs. It was an outstanding performance by all who participated. We are so



blessed and thankful for those who give their time and talent to our Sunday school.

December 20, we held our Christmas supper at the church. Once again, we were treated to a fabulous hot meal with all the trimmings provided by the church ladies. Supper ended with a variety of mouth-



watering desserts. Gifts were given for lucky chair, lucky plate, lucky cup and a door prize. At the end of the evening we all left feeling full and happy.

December 22, we had gift giving at Sunday school. Teachers and students exchanged gifts. It is just a simple gesture to show our love and kindness to one another.

We look forward to the New Year, anticipating God’s continued goodness.

ENGLEE The past year we have been so blessed here at Englee. Services continue to be filled

with showers of blessing. Once again, the Christmas season was a busy one, proclaiming the good news that a Saviour was born.



December 4, the church had a Christmas potluck supper. There was a wide selection of delicious meats, salads, casseroles and other main course and side dishes. This was followed by wonderful desserts. After everyone had their fill of food it was a time for gift giving. This year everyone brought a Christmas tree ornament. While a story was read the folks passed the individual ornaments to the left or the right as the story dictated. Once completed each person kept the item they were holding. It was a time of fun and laughter. Then the group enjoyed singing carols and choruses. As always, it is great getting together for fellowship.

December 15, we had our Sunday school presentation with the theme “**Rejoice Because a Baby Came.**” Family and friends came to see the Sunday school promote the birth of Jesus. The audience was treated to singing, recitations and other selections. The children and youth did an awesome job presenting the true meaning of Christmas.

On the evening of December 29, we held a Singspiration, which consisted of special singing combined with congregational numbers. Pastor Michael encouraged those in attendance to be a star. Just as the biblical star led the wise men to the Christ child, we too, as Christians, must do our best to lead the world to Jesus.

December 31, a combined watchnight service was held here at Englee. It was a blessing to come for a time of worship, sharing testimony and to hear the message from the Word. Following the sermon, the saints gathered to rededicate and pray for God’s blessings and guidance in the New Year.



January 5, the Sunday school junior department came to the parsonage for a time of fun, chatting, singing and of course, more food. Some gathered in groups sharing stories while others tried their hand at the piano. It is always a joy to have the youth come by.

January 6, Old Christmas Day, folks came out from the community to join us for an evening of caroling outdoors. Many braved the cold temperatures. Musicians played until their fingers grew cold. Everyone seemed to love the singing as we reminisced about the Christmas season. It was an opportunity for us to present the meaning of the Christ child to the public one more time.

In the evening of January 12, in the evening service the presence of the Lord, once again, filled the sanctuary. What a blessing to see saints, with hands raised to Heaven, being touched by the Spirit of God. Wayne Compton, using **Psalm 42:1-2**, brought forth a Spirit filled message from the Word, entitled ***“Thirsting for More of God.”*** The congregation was encouraged to have a desire, not for the material things but for heavenly things. A hunger for our experiences, healing and the deeper things of God is needed. The message was a spiritual springboard to a wonderful time of prayer around the altar.

We are so thankful for this past year. As we go into the New Year our prayer is to see souls brought into the fold. May 2020 bring God’s richest blessings your way!

BIRCHY BAY Belated New Year’s greetings to you all dear saints. Another year is gone by so swiftly, bringing us so much closer to the return of our Lord. As we look back over the past year it brings to reality the goodness of God. He has blessed this congregation bountifully both physically and spiritually and for this we are all eternally grateful.

Since our last newsletter Pastor Grant Cassell and his wife, Joan, visited. During their visit he preached a wonderful message on ***“Walking with God,”*** taking his text from **Genesis 5:24**. Among all the inspiring messages we have heard, brother Claude Quinlan preached one entitled, ***“Eye hath not Seen.”*** Our hearts were overjoyed just to be reminded what our Lord has gone to prepare for those who love and serve Him.

Our ladies bi-weekly fellowship time still continues. We completed our project and excelled the one hundred puppets we aimed to do. They were delivered to the Janeway Hospital for sick children late this past summer. We enjoy this time of fellowship as it gives us an opportunity to encourage one another.

On Thanksgiving Sunday we visited one of the nearby senior homes where we had a wonderful time of praise to God. At the end of the service we presented them with a large basket of fruit that they all could enjoy. It was also during another visit to this home that we celebrated a birthday with one of our dear saints, sister Violet Wells who turned 96. She still faithfully shares her personal testimony during our monthly services.



December 1, 2019, was one Sunday in particular to be remembered. It was during this service while singing the chorus, ***“He Leads me Beside Still Waters,”*** that the sweet Spirit of God filled His house and every heart received a fresh touch from Heaven.

During the Christmas season our congregation assembled for our annual Christmas supper, a time of food, activities and great fellowship.

With this New Year already upon us, we wait with great expectation for souls to be added to His Kingdom. We pray that God’s blessing be upon each of you dear saints, and should our Lord tarry that He will perform great things for us and through us.

TORONTO *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.” Jeremiah 29:11.* The children of God are hopeful for the New Year, a new beginning, new challenges but most importantly, we know that we serve a living God who will go with us and guide us as we take a new journey. We believe that when God promises, He will do it. It is written in **Numbers 23:19** that *“God is not a man, that He should lie.”* Holding on to those promises we know that He has so much more in store for us.

Toronto Church was so blessed last year by a number of additions coming from different parts of the world. Among them are Taffy Chimbodza, his wife’s sister, Tatenda, along with their two boys and their mother, sister Mangere, who were originally from Zimbabwe. They have been faithfully attending our services even when they have to drive about seventy kilometers every Sunday. Some students from Nigeria are also regular new faces in our church. Two mothers gave birth in 2019. Both are baby boys and they are an addition to our growing church family as they were dedicated by their parents to the Lord. There is always joy in our hearts whenever we gather for service or fellowship.



Christmas was a busy time for all churches as we like to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ with excitement. Our choir director, Wale Adigun and Nerissa, along with the Sunday school teachers, collaborated to prepare a mini-concert which by the grace of God turned out well.

We cannot thank the Lord enough for what He has done to make our Christmas program another one to remember for a long time. The Christmas songs, *“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”* and *“Every Christmas is a Birthday”* was sung by the choir delightfully. Our youth choir also gave their best for the Lord by



singing, *“He Made a Way in a Manger.”* The little ones sang beautifully some of our favorite Christmas carols, *“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”* and the Christian version of *“Jingle Bells.”* These are just a few of the songs we rendered for our Savior’s birthday. After the concert we gathered for fellowship with lots of savory food and a time for gift giving. What a wonderful privilege it is to do all this for the glory of God.



The Devotional service on the last Sunday of 2019 was used to give glory to God. Brother Randy Antalan encouraged everyone to thank God by sharing testimonies with focus on the primary blessings we received for the year. Victory over sin, healing and protection topped the most memorable testimonies among the brethren.

It is 2020 and we are holding on to the promises of God. Our Sunday services for January has been more than wonderful as we can say that we always feel the presence of God in every meeting. A sermon by Brother Edet Ibok, entitled *“We are a Pilgrim”* taken from **1 Peter 2:11 & 12** reminded us that as strangers and pilgrims of this world, we have a final destination. He cautioned us to abstain from fleshly lust as this will be a hindrance for making it to our final destination, the Eternal Life promised to the pure in heart.

For 2020, we believe that God is able to do exceedingly and abundantly especially if we put our trust in Him. This year will be another year of many great and wonderful things to happen to God's children.

KITCHENER *"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."* Isa. 40:31. As we reflect on 2019 with a heart of gratitude, we know it was God's promises that sustained us and carried us through.

September 2019 myself and my wife, Diane, felt blessed and privileged to be able to attend the special meetings at Langley, BC. The fellowship with Pastor Scott and his wife, Veronica, and the visiting ministers and their wives, along with the local church brethren and also other branch church members attending made for a great time of fellowship! The Spirit of God moved wonderfully and we thank God for the sermons and testimonies of victory.

The following Sunday myself and my wife and our Canadian District Superintendent, Rev. Christopher Hewlett and his wife, Pat, attended our church in Calgary, AB. We had an awesome time of fellowship with Sister Mary and her group. Thank God for the welcome and the kindred spirit that we felt!

On November 29, we met at a local restaurant for our annual adult Christmas supper. There were approximately seventy in attendance. The delicious meal and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. This was the first of our Christmas celebrations.

December 6: Youth Supper

One of the great gifts we are thankful for is being able to celebrate Christmas with our youth. The youth, along with their families came together for an awesome night of fun, fellowship and delicious food. We are very blessed that our youth still have a desire to attend youth group. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for them in 2020. Please continue to keep them in prayer.

December 15: Christmas Singspiration



The evening began with a musical instrumental followed by a variety of solos, duets, choirs, group singings, and congregational singing. One of our children, Jesse Gillingham sang "O Holy Night" and received a standing ovation. What an awesome job he did. It all made for a wonderful night of celebrating the birth of Christ.

December 22: Sunday school Christmas Program

Our theme this year was *"The Light of Christmas...Born to be our Savior."* All children/youth who were involved in the program



started with the "WELCOME" and the song entitled "Born to be the Savior." Throughout the program each class did an amazing job with their recitations and songs. It was exciting to see children who were so shy last year to actually do a solo part this year.

There was a skit called "We Have a Savior," a solo sung by Alexa, while Joseph (Deon), Mary (Ralinda) and some of the Sunday school children acted out the story of baby Jesus' birth. The program ended with songs entitled "Shine a Light" and "We Wish you a Merry Christmas." The children had candles showing that they are letting their light shine for

Jesus at Christmas and all year around! Let us not forget the LIGHT that was born to be our Savior!



In 2020 let us continue to pray for and encourage one another as we labor together in the service of the Lord!

WINNIPEG “Glory to God in the highest” was the theme of our 2019 Christmas concert and Sunday school program. There was great excitement among the shepherds when the angels announced the birth of Jesus Christ the Savior as they proclaimed: “on earth peace towards men.”

Christmas concerts and Sunday school children programs are evangelistic outreach tools through which the gospel of Jesus is published.

We thank the choir, orchestra and the children, with the help of God, for relentlessly volunteering their time for practices and rehearsals prior to the program.

The program was scheduled for Sunday, December 22, and on that day at about 4:30 p.m., the invitees were already coming in and settling down. At 5:00

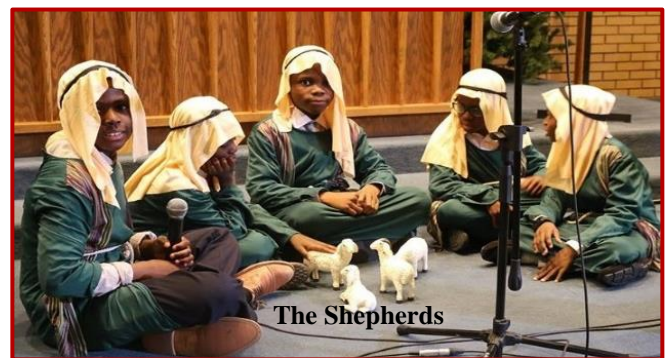


p.m., the program started with congregational singing: “Joy Fills Our Inmost Heart,” followed with opening prayer and Brother Samson Jimaza giving a friendly welcome to all in attendance.

The program was divided into two parts with an intermission. The first part was introduced by Pelumi Enejoh and the highlighted songs were; “*The Heavens are Telling the Glory of God*” by F.J. Hadyn, “*Ring the Bells*” by Joseph M. Martin &



Harry Bollback, “*Amen! Tell It on the Mountain*” Arr. Mary McDonald (female voices), “*Suite for Orchestra*” by G.F Handel and “*Concerto No 10, Movt.*” by F. Seitz. This is a violin solo/orchestra. “*Behold! A Virgin Shall Conceive*” and “*O Thou that Telles*” by G.F. Handel concluded the first part of the program.



During the intermission, the Sunday school children presented their program. They featured songs and a drama centered on the theme: “*Glory to God in the Highest.*”

Immediately after the intermission, the second part of the program commenced. This was introduced with a congregational song: “*Ding Dong Merrily on High,*” followed by an assortment of renditions; “*And the Glory of the Lord,*” and “*Exceeding Glad Shall He Be*” by G.F Handel, (string quartets): “*Canon in D*” by Johann Pachelbel, “*Joy to the World*” medley, Arr. Apostolic Faith Choir.

Finally, a locally arranged song was presented entitled, “*Gbo Ohun Awon Angeli*” interpreted as (*Hear the Voices of Angels sing*) arranged by John Aina & Femi Adeola.

A total of two hundred and ten were in attendance. The program was closed with a short admonition by Brother Samson Jimaza taking his text from *Isaiah 9:6-7* *“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”*

He challenged the audience to accept the salvation provided by Jesus, The Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace who is also the solution to all problems. After a session of prayer both the invitees and members dined together. It was amazing that so many attended the program from within and outside the city who heard the jingle over the radio.

We strongly believe that should Jesus tarry, the church will continue to uphold the banner of the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in our domain and beyond. **Glory be unto God!**

Fort McMurray Happy New Year! *“O Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.” Psalm 136:1*

As we reflect upon the goodness of the Lord, we are so grateful for His blessings and favor that we have experienced this year. We have seen many amazing answers to prayer, been blessed to hear testimonies of victory, to share God’s Word and His wondrous love. The Word is the source of life! In it we find guidance, peace and comfort, providing an abundant life for the redeemed.

Melanie shares her testimony:

“God has been so good to me and I’m so thankful for all that He has done. One Sunday night during testimony meeting the Lord came down and blessed my soul over and over again. As we were singing the chorus, “Every time I turn Around,” I could feel the Spirit of the Lord and I just had to cry onto Him. Oh, what a blessing! It’s better felt than told! It is such

a privilege to worship the Lord with the Saints of God. I am so thankful. With just a taste of that heavenly Spirit, it has put such a deep desire in my heart for more and more of Him. I long and pray for the day when I can stand to my feet in testimony meeting and thank the Lord for sanctifying my soul and filling me with the Holy Spirit. I know the Lord will answer that prayer. My heart’s desire is to keep pressing on and to see Jesus when He comes.”

Christmas 2019

Christmas is the time when those who have been saved by the grace of God through Jesus, remember the wonderful gift that God gave to the world when He sent His only



begotten Son to be born in Bethlehem’s manger. The angels in Heaven filled the silent night with the joyful sounds of praise declaring, *“Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth peace and goodwill to all*



men.” Thousands of years later, we still echo the anthem, Glory to God in the Highest!

Sunday evening, December 15, we gathered with our Sunday school to share the greatest story ever told. Oh, what a wonderful sight to see a church nearly filled with people to hear the Christmas story. The beautifully decorated sanctuary was a silent witness of preparation for a celebration. Sunday school teachers, students and musicians dedicated to give their best to Jesus declared His praise with music, songs, scripture and a re-enactment of the first Christmas.



How joyful to watch and listen as each participant from nursery to Bible class came to offer their finest gifts. Sweet anointing from Heaven witnessed to the truth that Christ had come among us, *love's most radiant light*.

Hearts were touched and the true meaning of Christmas was experienced afresh. For all that God has given us from the first Christmas to this one, we give Him all the glory, for He alone is worthy!

New Year's Eve

Our New Year's Eve celebration was held at the parsonage. We've been blessed to add a large room in the basement which is able to accommodate our church family. What a delightful way to end 2019, fellowshiping with the family of God. We enjoyed great food and fun, yet it pales in comparison to the blessing of praying the old year out and the new one in.

We join the Psalmist David; *"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalms 133:1*. As we prayed, the Holy Spirit flowed from heart to heart. God commanded the blessing and we stood in awe of His greatness.

As we approach a new decade, we are dedicated to shine for Jesus. A fresh new year and we are praising God for His blessings in our midst. We feel His presence and power when we gather to worship. Hungry hearts are reaching out!

Answered Prayer

January 6, Barry Canning, our lead usher, suffered a serious heart attack. A medical team worked on him and did their best to stabilize his heart. His condition looked bleak. There in that room we lifted our hearts in prayer, in faith believing. God heard and answered! One of the nurses said Amen! Another said, someone was looking out for you. Barry confidently spoke and witnessed, yes, it was the Lord!

He's recovering well and the following Sunday was in church and testified to his miracle. God is a miracle-working, all knowing, all-seeing God who is right on time. He brings us things that will bless us as we walk beside Him and ask in faith believing.

We give God thanks for the many things that He has done. We look forward to what God has in store for 2020, if Jesus tarries, and pray souls will be added to the Kingdom.

Abundant blessings to all the household of faith. We hold you close in prayer.

Langley

*"Rivers of joy are flooding my soul
Rivers of joy I cannot control
Rivers of joy make me so happy
I can't explain these rivers of joy"*

It is hard to put into words the fullness of which God has blessed us here in Langley. We continue to enjoy the blessings of God and progress of the Gospel in this corner of Canada.

We are especially grateful for our special meetings that took place in September of last year. During our five day event we felt the presence of God and His Spirit was manifested in every activity. Actually, the

momentum of these meetings have carried on even to this hour. Praise God!



The theme of our special meetings was **The Rapture of the Church**, an inspiring topic which each of our

The special singings and instrumentals were out of this world! They were just heavenly! Although all were a blessing, we believe the cream of the crop was the instrumental pieces performed by our young people's orchestra. There is certainly a bright future for the Church of God!

On the Saturday of the meetings we held a catered dinner on our church premises. We enjoyed a menu of a Baron of Beef, creamy Dijon Chicken along with all the fixings, dessert and beverages. Enjoying great food and sweet fellowship was a perfect touch to our free day.



visiting preachers expounded on. To open the meetings Brother Bill McKibben (Seattle) spoke on "*In a Moment*," followed by Brother Howard Canning (Bide Arm) "*Expecting*," Brother Kirby Hewlett (Kitchener) "*The Bread of Heaven*," Brother Bob Downey (Portland) "*Are You Ready?*" and the concluding service with Brother Chris Hewlett (Roddickton) speaking on "*An Acceptable Time*." These sermons certainly drew our attention more closely to the lateness of the hour and the blessed hope that God has a wonderful place reserved for us in Heaven!

Overall, the result of these meetings has been overwhelmingly positive. Each service was well attended, taking into consideration the working schedules of the saints. From Wednesday to Sunday our attendance fluctuated from forty-three to seventy-two. We thank God for the desire He has placed in each heart to support the work of Lord in the Langley area.



Our Christmas season was a blessing as it has been every year. Our Christmas program too was well

attended and went forward without a hitch. Our young people displayed their God given talents in reverent service to the Babe of Bethlehem's manger. It is an absolute pleasure to see them give their best to the Lord. May God continue to help them grow in Christ. Following the program we had a church Christmas dinner that was simply delightful!

God has made it possible for us to expand upon our service schedule. Prior to 2020 we were holding prayer meetings once a month on Saturday and having Sunday school and one service on Sunday. We also had men's and women's fellowship groups up and running. In January 2020 we have begun weekly Wednesday prayer meetings and have added an evening service to our Sunday schedule. This endeavour has been successful and blessed of God. We are truly thankful for the faithfulness of the family of God in supporting such initiatives. We know there is blessing in following the Lord wholeheartedly.

May God continue to strengthen us in 2020! May God continue to add to His Church in 2020! We know He is coming back soon!

Upcoming Events 2020

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### *South Brook Special Meetings*

South Brook, NL  
April 30 – May 3

### *Portland Camp Meeting*

Portland, OR  
June 28 – July 12

### *Youth Camp*

Roddickton, NL  
July 27 – 31

### *Newfoundland Camp Meeting*

Roddickton, NL  
August 2 – 9

### *Midwest Camp Meeting*

Fredericktown, MO  
July 28 – August 3

### *Calgary Special Meetings*

*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations*

Calgary, AB  
September 2 – 6

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