



Victory in Jesus!

"And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

Revelation 22:1



October 2023

Toronto Special Meetings

The Apostolic Faith Church, Toronto, ON, under the leadership of the District Superintendent Rev. Chris Hewlett, was blessed to host the 2023 Special Meetings themed "Revive thy Work O Lord" from August 23-27.

These meetings were graced with the presence of pastors and ministers from our churches across Canada. At its peak, over



500+ combined attendees joined both physically and virtually for the meetings and we were incredibly grateful to God for the outpouring of His manifold blessings.

The opening service on Wednesday night commenced with "Jesus my Lord," by the orchestra followed by, "Thank You for the Cross Lord," and "I Gave my Life for Thee," by the choir, setting the tone for a Spirit-filled service. Rev. Chris Hewlett gave a hearty welcome to all in attendance, conveying warm greetings from the Board of Directors at the district headquarters in Roddickton, NL. He then introduced the pastors and their spouses from the branch churches. Brother Tobi Shobukola, pastor of the Toronto congregation, also gave a friendly welcome to all as he expressed his excitement in seeing the representatives from the different branches visit to support the special meetings. Beautiful hymns such as, "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing," "Revive Us Again," and "Nothing but the Blood," rang out as voices lifted to worship and praise God. Testimonies of victory followed. Sharron Canning quickly rose to

her feet to praise God for keeping her in the valleys she experienced. Darius showed his excitement to be in a place where the saints of God are. He told how God saved him from a miserable life of sin and gave thanks that he had a mom who prayed for him and didn't give up until He came to God.



Norma Rigor sang a solo entitled, "Free at Last," before Rev. Chris Hewlett preached. His topic was, "Are You Ready for Revival?" He referenced *Psalm 85:6-11* and implored us all to pray for revival, noting that revival starts from within the church when we individually seek the face of God. Additionally, he identified four major requirements to stir up revival in the church: 1. We must be an obedient people, 2. We must be a humble people, 3. We must be a praying people and 4. We must be diligently waiting upon God. God wants to give you a fresh touch of His Spirit. What is revival? It is restoration to life, reawakening of our senses, interest, our love for God, our love for the truth, a stirring in our souls. He also used *Joel 2:12-14* and *18-25* to further explain an outward expression of sorrow and repentance and rendering of our hearts before we can have personal revival. A wonderful time of prayer followed.

The Thursday evening service was another evening of spiritual blessings, refreshments, and inspiration. The orchestra started the service by playing, "How Great Thou Art," followed by the choir singing, "These are the days of Elijah." The congregation joined the choir in singing a variety of songs from the hymnal. After the opening prayer and announcements, the choir proceeded to sing, "There is a Balm in Gilead," leading into the testimony session. Patsy Hewlett testified to being re-anointed by the Holy Spirit during prayer following the sermon at the previous service and the grace given to her and her husband to build a Christian home on the solid rock of Christ Jesus, just one month after they got married. This was amongst other

inspirational testimonies from the saints about God's power to save from sin and deliver in times of trials.

Following a special song by Pearl Akazue titled, "Who Can Move the Mountains That Are Hindering You Today," brother Foluso Oladunni from Edmonton, Alberta, delivered the sermon for the hour which he expressed was a message of warning. The theme was taken from *Isaiah 55:6* "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near." He instructed everyone to surrender their life to Christ, noting the significance of seizing the opportunity now since it is the dispensation of grace. How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? This opportunity to come to Christ will not be forever. We have a high priest who will feel our infirmities. He will give you peace of mind. He's the help for the helpless. When you are sick, He will heal you. He can open doors for you. He will give you a joy that no one can explain. Call upon Him – there is a time you will call and maybe He will not be there. *Proverbs 8:17*. When the door is shut it is shut forever. Brother Foluso also shared the fate of the five foolish virgins and the account of the rich man and Lazarus. What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his soul?

Friday evening, the third service of the special meetings, started with the great song, "The Great Physician Now is Near," by the orchestra after which the choir sang a



medley of timeless songs. There was also a special rendition of the song, "Just a Little Talk with Jesus," by a men's combined choir. This exciting song summoned a wonderful spirit of praise and worship in our midst, and everyone sang the congregational songs heartily. A duet, "Speak to the Mountain," was given by Ralinda and Deidre from Kitchener. Beautiful testimonies of victory

were then given. Ann shared how she was away from the gospel for 20 years, but God spoke to her and said, "You are going to Hell." He showed me what I needed to do. God brought me back to this gospel and I praise Him.



Following the testimony service, a duet titled, "Until Then," by Pastor Randy Antalan and his wife, Jean was offered. Pastor Kirby Hewlett presented the message on the "Living Water." He admonished the church to approach God with great thirst

because the Living Water is an eternal thirst quencher, citing *Isaiah 55:1*. For the last 2000 years this living water has flowed from Calvary. It works for the young as well as the old and in between, all ages. When we drink those living waters, we become new creatures in Christ. Are you thirsty for God? Just as the woman at the well received the living water and went and told others about it, God is still the same on August 25, 2023. He still gives the living water. Three times the Spirit says, "Come" in *Rev. 22:17*. The cry goes out to a hurting world, every thirsty soul come and drink at the springs of living water. A great time of prayer followed.



On Saturday, August 26 ministers, and their spouses as well as the District

Superintendent, Rev. Chris Hewlett and his wife assembled at the Apostolic Faith Church in Kitchener,



Ontario, for a ministers and spouses meeting. This was a very special time for us to be reminded of our Calling and receive instruction and admonition to work together in this great gospel. There were three sessions in the morning followed by a brief lunch prepared by Pastor Robert and Lisa of Kitchener. The afternoon consisted of three more informative sessions after which we enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner hosted by the Toronto Church. What a glorious blessing to fellowship together and enjoy nurturing and encouragement from likeminded workers who labor across Canada to, *"...earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."* *Jude 1:3*.

Sunday, the last day of the special meetings, began with the Sunday school service at 10 a.m. with Edet Ibok from the Toronto church teaching the adult lesson titled, "House on the Rock." The devotional service began with an outstanding presentation by the children, acting out the story from the Bible of the man at the Beautiful Gate. The sweet Spirit of God was very evident upon this depiction. The children then marched to their classes singing, "In the Same Old Way." Yes indeed, the Lord is still doing business in the same old way!

A baby dedication followed as new parents brought their baby to be dedicated to God and receive the



blessing of the Lord upon the baby, themselves as parents and their extended family.

There was a violin solo by Brother Folusho after which the choir sang, "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying." A space of time was given for beautiful congregational songs, an opening prayer and an appreciation message and announcements by the Toronto church pastor, Brother Tobi Shobukola. Testimonies were then shared.

Toyin Akindele from Vancouver, BC, testified on the instant miracle she and her family received upon their arrival to the special meetings in Toronto, as God returned their foster son home after he had been declared missing. Happiness related how she was so sick but God came to her rescue and was faithful to take care of her. There were other testimonies on the divine power to save, heal, restore, provide, and deliver.

The song, *"Help Me Lord to Stand,"* performed by a quartet preceded the soul-lifting sermon by Brother Michael Ivany. His sermon began with *Luke 9:13*, how Jesus miraculously fed the five thousand with just five loaves and two fishes. He admonished everyone to awaken their spiritual appetite so that they could be fed spiritually, emphasizing that spiritual hunger is triggered by seeking God steadfastly. When we are hungry, we need to be fed. We will remember the Toronto revival meetings if we receive something from God. If we want revival, we must hunger for God. He will feed us full, overflowing with leftovers. The Bible tells of Jacob having a hunger to get a hold of God. His brother was coming to meet him with 400 men. He wrestled and prevailed with God saying, *"I will not let thee go except thou bless me."* *Genesis 32:22-32*. Help us to hunger every day, refresh our souls. We can never have too much of God. A hunger for God triggered the great revival of Azusa Street.

As we were leaving the church, the ladies from Toronto gave all those in attendance a packed lunch to take with us. It was delicious and much appreciated. They also gave out refreshments at the end of every service. What a blessing!

The special meetings ended with an evening service at the Apostolic Faith Church in Kitchener, ON. We



gathered once more to enjoy soul-lifting music by the choir, to sing wonderful gospel songs together, share

inspiring testimonies and listen to God's Word being expounded. A trumpet solo by Chad Thomspson, *"Let it*



Rain," and medley by the young adult choir gave a good start to the evening. Toronto favored us with, *"It is Finished,"* before testimonies. Sister Mary Fasola, leader of the Calgary branch, witnessed that she wasn't raised in the gospel, but God caught up with her at an early age. When God saved her, He made a complete change.

The special before the message was by Myles Hancock, *"Won't you Come?"* The sermon entitled, *"Come unto Me,"* was delivered by brother Samson Jimaza, the pastor from the Winnipeg Church. We have received invitations to marriages, birthdays, etc., but this invitation is the most important of them all. It is the invitation to come to Jesus for salvation. Jesus says the load you are carrying is too heavy for you. He wants to lift that load for you. Bring Him this burden and He will make it light. The revival that followed is evidence of God's presence since the beginning of the special meetings. To God be the glory!

During and after the special meetings, we have recorded several testimonies and blessings received by people who attended, and we pray that this will be the beginning of many special meetings to come in Jesus' name. Amen.

Roddickton

Summer 2023 has been blessed for us folks here at the Roddickton church. We have enjoyed being together and feeling the presence of the Lord. The song writer stated, *"We are blessed in the city, and we're blessed in the field."* Folks have been doing summer

travels but its always wonderful when we get together to worship again.

September 10 was no exception. We enjoyed a wonderful morning service. Saints then gathered in for the evening service. We enjoyed singing and awesome testimonies of victory before Tena Reardon stood to sing the special song. Her selection entitled, *"I Need You More Today,"* was beautiful. Tena, for some time, had been struggling with back issues. While she was singing, we could sense the Spirit of the Lord filling the sanctuary. Tena started to earnestly reach out to the Lord while the saints began to worship and pray as well. Oh, what a time of blessing. Then one of the brothers approached another, who had been going through a trial. Shortly after the two made their way to the altar while the congregation fell in behind and came forward. It was a time of refreshing, restoration and reanointing. Another brother (Calvin Reid) had been having pain and difficulty with his head decided to leave because he wasn't feeling well. Tena, who had felt the healing touch of the Master, was drawn to go out in the foyer and meet with him. After some words of encouragement our brother returned to the altar to be anointed and prayed for. We can say, *"Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled our Souls."* Brother Calvin began to look towards the cross on our church wall. His faith reached out and oh the victory as he felt the healing virtue of Christ come to His rescue. Saints were encouraged to connect holding hands in a circle while praising the Lord in song. *"So sweet is the Spirit has it moves among God's people."* It was a meeting long to be remembered.

The following Sunday Tena stood to her feet to witness to the fact that the Lord had indeed touched her and that she had a week of victory. Her back was doing great. Calvin also gave account of getting a much-needed healing from the Lord. We are so thankful that the Christ of yesterday is the Christ of today. We look forward to many more spirit-filled services should the Lord tarry.

It is always a joy to visit and share the good news of the gospel at our senior homes. To see the smiles and hear their voices singing is a blessing indeed. Many times, we go with the intention to uplift and encourage them, and we leave uplifted and blessed by them. Their accounts



of where God has brought them from and what His grace has taken them through is a testament in itself. Let's keep these dear individuals in our thoughts and prayers.

Raymond Cassell's Testimony

January 26, 2001



The morning my wife got saved, December 27, 1999, I felt my world just fall apart around me. I couldn't find any answers to anything. I made both of our lives miserable.

From December 27 to February 8, 2000, I lived a life of misery. I even thought of suicide, but I guess there was a seed planted in my heart when I was young child. I couldn't go through with it because I knew that I would end up in a lost eternity.

On Sunday night, February 6, my wife, and her sister wanted me to go to church with them. I said no. They said they would pray for me. I told them that I couldn't understand how anyone could pray for someone to be miserable.

After they left, I watched some religious programs on television. I decided I would go and pray. I took the Bible in my hands, opened it up, and laid it on the bed to give me strength. That was the very first time in 47 years that I ever knelt and asked the Lord to come into my life.

That night, I didn't find salvation, so I prayed for a greater desire to seek the Lord.

Monday night when my wife and I went to bed, I asked her if she ever tried to visualize Jesus on the cross. I told her that I wish I had a knob to turn like a view master on my head, so that I could see what I wanted to see. Then I told her that I had prayed Sunday night, but I didn't feel anything.

Tuesday morning, after my wife went to work, I got up, ate breakfast, and turned to go into the living room. The Bible on the end of the table caught my eye and I felt like I just had to read it. After reading for a while, I went and knelt by the sofa and prayed.

After a time, I got up and sat in the armchair. At that time, I felt peaceful. I rested my head back and closed my eyes. Things began to happen. I thank God for that morning because the Lord did show me things as though I was looking through a view master. First, I began to see beautiful colors like I had never seen before, like the red of an eastern sky in the morning, before rain. Then, I saw a small light. It seemed to come right from outer space to my face and stopped. Then it moved away, and I found myself moving my head just to keep it focused. That light went out of sight and a bigger, brighter light came into view. It was a light with a halo around it. After that, I saw the most beautiful colors. They could never be copied by human. Then, I saw a picture. It was black and jagged on the outside, and the most beautiful city came about quarter of the way into the picture. It had stained glass windows and many steeples. After viewing this for a while, I could find myself weeping. Then, a black hand came up out of the perimeter into the beautiful blue picture. I saw a beautiful river as clear as crystal. I could see the rocks on the bottom and the green grass on the banks of the river. The water flowed very smooth but began and ended in a short distance. After that, two more lights came very close to me. One was orange and the other was in the brightest white. Their shapes were a bit strange – sort of kidney shaped.

After seeing all of this, the devil spoke to me and said, "You're not seeing anything. It's only the suncatcher in the window." I knew this wasn't true because the sun wasn't even high enough to be on the window. I said to the devil, "I can prove it's not the suncatcher!" So, I exercised a bit of faith and put my hand over my eyes. When I did this, I saw a spot of blood, crimson red, between my hand and my eyes, with a portion of it ready

to drop. I saw it drop. It was so real that I whipped my hand down and looked at it. I then looked at my shirt to see where the blood fell.

It wasn't on my hand or my shirt, but it was applied to my heart. When I realized what I was doing, I was running back and forth the hallway, praising the Lord. I knew there was a change in me because I felt such peace and joy. I am still praising the Lord today for the wonderful and miraculous way He saved me.

Bide Arm

This is the first time that our new Pastor, Randy Antalan and his wife, Jean, spent their full summer here in Bide Arm. Although there were not many warm days during this summer season, the warmth of the fellowship amongst brethren is one that really stands out. Glory be to God for the love that He had shown upon us.

The Father's Day celebration on June 18, Sunday, was a very memorable one for the fathers in Bide Arm. Our church service was attended by several fathers from our little town. The congregation joyously sang along to requested tunes, primarily some of our fathers' favorite gospel hymns. Della Cassell requested the song, "When I've Gone the Last Mile of the Way," which was brilliantly sang by Percy Hopkins, in memory of her father Charlie Randell. All the fathers present received a token of



appreciation during the service, presented by Pastor Randy and our Sunday school students. Following the sing-along, we all gathered in the church basement for an excellent dinner that the church ladies had prepared. Together, we had a beautiful time honoring and appreciating our fathers.

July 23 marked a special Sunday because Pastor Howard Canning and his wife Sharron paid us a visit for the first time in nearly a year since they left to go to Fort McMurray for their new assignment. That Sunday morning, Pastor Howard delivered a sermon using *II Kings 2:9-14* as his text. He placed emphasis on our aspirations for eternal life, asking if we were content or if we wanted more. Pastor George Burton and his wife Barbara were also present. Throughout his years of active ministry, Pastor George and his wife served as pastors of the Bide Arm church. It was a special Sunday because two of our former pastors came to see their beloved Christian brothers and sisters.

With the pastors scheduled to be away for the Sunday of August 27 it was decided that a combined service be held in Bide Arm. It was well attended by the saints from the three churches. The service began with Phyllis Patey singing a solo, *"How Long Has It Been Since You Talked with the Lord,"* followed by the chorus, *"The longer I Serve Him,"* with the congregation joining in with her. What a spiritual feeling it was. It made for a good springboard for the rest of the service as the joyous singing confirmed that. We were also favoured with special singing by Roddickton and Englee later in the service. We had many testimonies of victory, telling of one's experience of salvation, sanctification and receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Some told of divine healing. Brother David shared a miracle that he witnessed on his fishing boat. *One spring day he was steering towards the Englee Harbour when he was blocked by a heavy ice flow. He got within a couple miles and could not maneuver further. The wind and tide started pushing the boat away from the harbour; on top of that, there was a tremendous ice pressure on the boat, a danger of crushing it. He called his mother for prayer, and she made it known to the saints to pray. The boat drifted all night with him and his crew on board. At dawn he was now several miles away and still surrounded by*

ice and a dense fog. It was sometime later he looked out and there was an opening in the fog and a water path in the ice, which led directly to Englee harbour. As he did, the ice path closed in behind him, but he docked safely with the guiding hand of the Almighty.

Brother Kevin Hopkins delivered an inspiring message with the Lord's help. He pointed out the difference between the thief (Satan) and the Good Shepherd (Jesus). Satan comes to steal one's joy and destroy them, whereas Jesus comes to carry us on His shoulder and keep us within the fold; what a contrast. The service did end with a prayer meeting which was an opportune time to express our gratitude to the one who we look forward to spending eternity with.

Several people from Thompson, Manitoba, visited us during our evangelistic service on September 10 while a couple who are gospel ministers from Central Newfoundland also joined us that evening. The choir opened the service singing, *"I Just Steal Away and Pray,"* and followed that with the congregation singing several hymns. Many people got up and shared how their lives have changed since accepting Jesus as their Savior during the testimony service. One of the visitors testified about how he got saved from his sinful life. Another one talked about how God took care of him and his family after losing his wife. One of the guests came forward to be prayed for, for healing as we were singing short choruses. The message that night was about, *"Crying out to the Lord and tell Him your troubles."* The text Pastor Randy used was taken in *Psalms 142:1-5*. Followed is another spirit filled prayer service.

Autumn is coming and preparation for winter season is on its way, however, the most important preparation believers and non-believers alike must do is to be ready for the coming of the Lord. We believe it won't be long and Jesus and His angels will be appearing right before the saints' eyes.

Edmonton

The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." *Psalms 126:3.*

The summer months were great and filled with the blessings of God in our midst.

Some of our brethren were able to attend the 2023 Portland Camp Meeting and those who could not attend watched the services virtually - overall it was a wonderful time of spiritual awakening and refreshment.

We witnessed God's marvelous answers to prayers. One of our young adults who had been seeking her experience prayed in the house and received the baptism of the Holy Ghost, a proof that God can satisfy every thirsty soul anywhere and everywhere.



God extended a great privilege to our young adults and youth during this summer. They started conducting full Sunday service every last Sunday of the month! The services have been very reviving and encouraging. It has been a great joy to behold our young adults mount the pulpit-indeed the Church has a glorious future and continuity should the Lord tarry His coming. We believe that God will use this opportunity to revive and establish our teeming young members in the Lord and His service.

All our scheduled services – Sunday worship, prayer meetings and recently resumed mid-week Bible study went unhindered during which our souls were revived with wonderful fellowship and testimonies. A sister testified about how God helped her to pray and wait on Him in the choice of a right job offer among others which would not include her working on Sundays even as a medical doctor. Another brother praised God who delivered him from losing his medical doctor practice license through identity theft.

God also blessed us with additional members including newborn babies who were dedicated to the Lord, students both from our other Canadian branch churches and international. Whole families also came to join us. Indeed, we serve a faithful and prayer answering God.

There were several church and youth summer events to foster Christian fellowship and bonding.

On June 24, 2023, our Primary Pals students had a fun day at the Callaghan Spray Park with their parents and teachers. They were treated to lunch and were given gifts of lunch bags and snacking containers.

For a church summer activity on August 5 the church visited Fort Edmonton Park. It was a great time to socialize and get to know our newest members better. The group studied the Apostolic Faith App Devotionals together and had a potluck for lunch.

Our returning students were also invited out to a picnic on September 9 at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Park. The picnic



themed "Is Jesus on your list?" included a quiz session with questions from our last completed Sunday school quarter booklet, games, grilled lunch, and prizes.

Students were encouraged to start the new school session with Jesus in their hearts as this guarantees their success as promised in *Joshua 1:8*.

As we appreciate and glorify God for His manifold blessings upon us this past summer, our eyes are upon Him in faith as we pray for His continual presence and showers of abundant blessings upon us, including salvation, sanctification, and baptism of the Holy Ghost. *"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."* Ephesians 3:20-21.

Fort McMurray

June 29 marked the end of the school year, and the onset of summer. This summer was a busy time with much travel.

July 17 my wife, and I travelled to Newfoundland and returned on August 3. It was good to be home and connect with the saints, family, and friends.

Upon our return, it was decided that we would gather at the parsonage Sunday evenings, rather than our regular location because there were still many who were traveling, and on vacation. August 6 was our first Sunday evening singalong. August 13, we had our second gathering. During both get togethers we sang selected songs, choruses, and any requests. Also, there was prayer for individual needs. August 20, we had our third Sunday evening singalong, this time we included testimonies as well. We were blessed to be able to get together in such a manner over the summer. The Lord met with us there, and we felt His presence so real. To finish our Sunday evenings, we would have coffee and some desserts before everyone went home.

August 18 we had a special occasion at the parsonage. The dedication of Grayson Fillier, son of Natosha Fillier, grandson of Ivan and Lisa Fillier, and great grandson of sister Madonna Fillier, who was here at that time. It was a beautiful evening with the Fillier family, and other



family members that attended. The family provided a lovely meal after the dedication.



August 21 my wife, and I traveled to Toronto for special meetings. These meetings were a great time of fellowship with saints from many of the branch churches. After the meetings we stayed in Ontario until after Labour Day to spend time with our family.

A couple months before our visit with our family, our youngest daughter lost feeling on the left side of her body. Through doctor appointments, and testing she was diagnosed with cavernous angioma, which caused bleeding on the brain. This was a great concern for our family. We began to reach out to the saints for prayer on her behalf, for the Lord to intervene. Over time it was determined surgery would be the best option. While we were visiting, she went to sign the paperwork for surgery, at that time a CT scan was ordered. Upon receiving the report of the CT scan, the doctor noticed that there was a significant reduction in the spot on her brain, and said surgery wasn't necessary at this point. We thank, and praise God for answering prayer, and trusting Him for a full recovery.

Sunday afternoon, September 17 was promotion Sunday for our Sunday school children. There were graduates



from the nursery, one new class, and teacher added, and teachers changed with new classes.

During our Sunday evening services we have been seeing some visitors on a regular basis, we thank God for those who are coming to join with us. Sunday evening service September 17 again, was a Spirit filled service as saints were being blessed. We thank God that He comes and meets with us and fills our hearts as we reach out to Him.

September 7 marked the one-year anniversary of our arrival in Fort McMurray. *Psalm 133:1 "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"* It has been good (GREAT) and pleasant being a part of the fellowship here. We have been blessed and felt God's presence moving in our midst. We are expecting God to continue to do great things among His people.

Winnipeg

Welcome Back to School special service.

On Sunday, 10 of September 2023, a special devotional service was held to send our children forth with the Lord, into the new school year. We bless almighty God for keeping them safe all through the summer holidays.

It was a beautiful Sunday service with plenty of renditions by the children and young adults. To kick off



the ministrations, our elementary Sunday school student (Beginners, Primary Pals, and Answer Classes)

played a recorder piece, titled, *"Through the love of Christ our Savior."*



In continuation of the service, there was a duet (Violin piece), *"Shout to the Lord,"* by the Akintola sisters, followed by a song titled, *"Awesome God,"* which was beautifully rendered by the young adult's choir.

Marilyn Lere-Adams led the congregation in songs, starting off with the Celebrational hymnal 80, *"I Stand in Awe of You,"* and other hymns such as, *"Think About His Love," "Jehovah Jireh My Provider,"* and the song before prayer, *"Shine Jesus shine."*

We had a promotion ceremony for three of our children who graduated from Primary pals to Answer class and they were presented gifts.

The beginners class children increased in number to the glory of God as well as our little children below age five years in this class. The Primary pals and Answer class students were recognized as they all found their way to the front amidst a round of applause from the audience.

The young adults in the university were recognized too, with two of them being recent university graduates.

We welcomed four visitors, all university students, who joined us for the special service. We bless God for making them to be a part of the service.



Monday Enejoh delivered the announcement, and the female voices from the youth choir sang a song, titled, "God can," reminding us that God can do anything.

There was testimony time for students and our adults who were once students equally testified. Brother Biyi testified of how God saw him through university, years ago, with his young family, how God provided his tuition and orchestrated a desirable job for him.

Ed Umuerrri testified of God's mighty power to save and keep. Goodluck testified of God's provision of a job to support him through school, as well as success in his driving test. Pelumi testified of how God stood with her and her family as a young school age child many years ago in times of uncertainty, how God supplied tuition, and has brought her thus far. All the testimonies shared to the glory of God, all sources of encouragement for all our children that it pays to know and serve God.

In rounding up the testimonies, a last special was a Duet by siblings, John, and Funmi Akintola titled, "Goodness of God."



Brother Peter Oyeniyi delivered the sermon with key verse taken from *Ecclesiastes 12:1*. The students were admonished that as they return to school to remember their Creator, and not

follow the popular way. The importance of making the right choice: which one to follow, the smaller gate or the wider gate where it seems everyone is going in. In choosing which way to go, some people stand idly, and are compelled by the crowd and the devil to go into the wider gate. In contrast with the narrow gate, few people go in. The construction of the narrow gate was so expensive (John 3:16). Going in through the narrow gate is a conscious effort and is not done idly. *Deuteronomy 2:19* admonishes us to choose life!

As a student, why remember the Creator in the days of youth: 1) God gives guidance. *Psalms 27:33* tells us of how the steps of the righteous is ordered by God. As a

student, have Jesus in your heart to guide you. 2) When you need a friend. *Proverbs 18:24*, have "Jesus who sticks closer to you than a brother." *Psalms 46*, God is a very present help. 3) He saves you from regrets. Remember the story of the three Hebrew boys in a strange land. With Jesus, you don't need guesswork, He will direct your choices.

As the sermon ended, the congregation sang a hymn titled, "I Surrender All," and was led in closing prayer before we proceeded to commune with God on our knees. Many of our students flocked to the prayer altar to cry out to God for salvation and help as they continue into the school year.

We bless God for the service and continue to pray God's mighty hand to keep all our children and cause them to excel in their studies and be a shining light wherever they go, pointing others to Jesus in their generation.

We had a total of ninety-one in attendance for the service in-person and fourteen connections on Zoom.

South Brook

God is good all the time. We are thankful for God's presence and the sweet Spirit of God as we worship with our congregation. God's grace is sufficient to fully bless us at any situation, He will make us stronger amidst the difficulties of our lives. There is nothing or no one else that can do what God can do. He is an omnipotent God, with unlimited powers.

Children are back to school, vacations are ending, but we thank God He never changes. *Hebrews 13:8* says, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and for ever." So, we can trust Him at all times. We have enjoyed the warmth of the summer heat but most of all the warmth of God's love that surrounds us every day, keeping us close to Him.

Thank God for our visitors we had over the summer months that joined with us in worshipping the King of kings.

There has also been sadness for our little church as well. On June 2 a dear brother, Eric Burton, passed away after his battle with a lengthy illness. He was known for his faithfulness and singing special songs at church, which brought many tears to our eyes. He is greatly missed. Let us all be faithful until God calls us home. *James 4:14, "...For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."*

We are anticipating a wonderful fall. Remember there is a great reward awaiting you when you fight the good fight, finish your course, and keep the faith. God Bless.

Toronto

As we wrap up the third quarter of the year and reflect on the past few months, the church in Toronto is grateful to God for the manifestation of His presence and love in its midst. This has been reflected in the testimonies shared and the various activities mapped out for the quarter.

One major event scheduled for this quarter was the 2023 Toronto Special Meetings which took place from August 23-27. The theme of the programme was "Revive, thy work O Lord" inspired by the book of *Habakkuk 3:2, "...O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy."*

The programme attracted ministers from across our churches in Canada and other congregants who attended either virtually or physically. It featured anointed sermons, soul-lifting music, encouraging testimonies, and prayer amongst other activities.

Leading up to the programme, the Sunday evening services was repurposed to prayer meetings to specifically request a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the special meetings and beyond. This was in addition to daily prayer sessions organized through the week prior to the meetings. We thank God because He did just that for us and to show our appreciation, the weekend following the meetings were dedicated exclusively to thanksgiving.

As a part of the strategy to reinforce the structure in place for our increasing number of children and nurture them early on, the Sunday school department was



expanded, and activities are being developed regularly to engage our children. Since the last quarter, they have consistently made presentations to the church on special occasions, where they recite key verses, sing songs and act in short plays. Currently, the church is working towards providing opportunities for the children to learn to play their desired musical instruments and establishing a children's church dedicated solely to them, in a bid to ensure that they are engaged in activities tailored to their age throughout our Sunday services.

The youths were not left out as they organized a 'Paint and Potluck' event which was held on Saturday, August 5. The event was well attended, and it created the right avenue for the brethren to fellowship together and enjoy each other's company outside the formal church setting.

On Sunday, September 17 Pastor Tobi Shobukola confirmed that the church building acquisition committee had begun to actively search for a temporary space to rent. This was a welcomed development as the church has been praying earnestly for its own space. We are grateful to God for helping His church take this bold leap of faith and we are trusting Him to see us through.

We have recorded numerous testimonies since the beginning of the quarter, however, a lingering prayer request by one of our young members from the last quarter was miraculously answered in September.



Toronto Youths at the Downsview Park in Toronto, Canada.



Indeed, we are thankful for God's unending mercies towards His children. Also, we are happy to have the pastor from our church in Bamenda, Cameroon, Sister Dorothy Ndamukong worship with us, while visiting with family in Toronto, certainly the Lord does send help at the right times to support His work.

The Toronto church is marching on by the grace of God as it continues to rely on God's assurance in the book of *Luke 12:32* which states, "*Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*"

Kitchener

There is a line of a chorus that says, "*So sweet is the Spirit as it moves among His People.*" It is very difficult to be able to describe the Spirit of God but "so sweet" are two words that come to mind.

On June 11 we saw the Spirit of God move in such a sweet and mighty way. A sister in our congregation, Nadine Jenkins, had suffered for so long with pain. She had many tests done, had tried many medications but continued in so much pain that even during our services she had fainted because of it. She had to be led in and

out of our church services. This night like we had done before we gathered around her anointing and laying hands on her while we prayed for deliverance. We continued to tarry and waited upon God. We weren't there in the upper room that was recorded in Acts 2 but for those of us who were tarrying there we got a glimpse of what it must have been like. Then the Spirit filled the house and ministered to the hearts of all who were there and instantly healing Nadine. We give God thanks and praise.

On Father's Day, June 18 our Sunday school presented the fathers with a great program celebrating their special day. In the evening service we had a young man who wanted to give his testimony even before the designated time for testimonies began. It's wonderful when someone is excited to give God praise. Another sister arrived during our song service, but she came directly into the sanctuary and to the altar where God poured out His blessing upon her.

On June 24 we had our annual Sunday school picnic where folks of all ages gathered for a time of food, fun and fellowship. God is so good!

We were blessed to be able to attend the Toronto special meetings. Our spirits were revived, and our souls were fed from the Word of God. On August 27 the Toronto saints visited us here in Kitchener for the evening service. What a blessing to have them as part of our congregation as together we worshipped our awesome God.

God is good, not just once in a while, but He's good all the time. Every Sunday we gather in His house expecting to receive from Him as we praise Him for His goodness. The church here is growing and we are expecting even more souls to be added to His kingdom. We continue to pray for all the brethren, as we keep our eyes Heavenward looking for our Lord's return.

Calgary

It has been a blessed quarter with lots of victories and testimonies. Our God is ever faithful to those who trust in Him. "*For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in his holy name.*" *Psalm 33:21.*

Mothers Day: This year's Mother's Day celebration was unique. The presence of our grandmothers visiting Calgary, added a much more beautiful flair to the event.



The fathers and brothers organized the events, where all mothers, sisters, and grandmothers were celebrated.



We had a blessed service with lots of inspirational and uplifting songs as well as the physical nourishment.

Father's Day: The Father's Day service was also a joyful one, filled with lots of blessings as the fathers, brothers,



and granddads were celebrated in style. We are thankful to have godly fathers and pray that God will keep and continue to bless them.

A New Spiritual year: We enjoyed the 2023 Camp Meeting, and we were all blessed and happy to start a new spiritual year. We are confident that God who has been with us in previous years will continue to be with us and bless us more in this new spiritual year. *"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."* Psalm 37:5.

Increase in the fold: We have experienced an increase in this quarter as we did not just have visitors but also had brethren who relocated from other provinces to Calgary, Alberta. Lots of grandparents from Nigeria including ministers and overseers. This increase has been felt in the congregation, the choir, and even the children's department (primary pals). Their presence has been a blessing to us, and the fellowships have been memorable and uplifting. We know that God will continue to increase our numbers as we will have more souls not just from relocations but also from within Calgary – those that God will call to Himself. *"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1.*

Evangelism Project: Our leaders have been inspired to initiate an evangelism project this quarter. Although this is still in the process with lots of planning being put in place, we are hopeful for unlimited blessings, testimonies, and revival through this outreach.

Lots of celebrations (God's blessings) – milestone birthdays and farewell (see you later) party for a beautiful family: We had lots of birthday celebrations in



this quarter with some visitors and friends even asking if we usually have food and celebrations every Sunday. God has been faithful, and we do not want to fail in appreciating His blessings.

Celebrating one of our dear families that moved to another province was one with mixed feelings. They have been an integral part of our church here in Calgary and will be missed but we are happy that it is for good and pray that God will bless and be with them wherever they go.

Women's Forum: The ladies had a good time in the last quarter fellowshiping and having fun together as a group. They had inhouse fun times as well as outdoor adventures. It has been so much fun, and we know that God will uphold all our young women and make them blessings to this



generation. In one of our meetings in the park, some of the women had an opportunity to reach out to a lady through the kindness that was given.

Men's Forum: The Bible is explicit about the vitality of Christian unity and support for fellow brethren. **Amos 3:3, 4:4**. This is the basis for organizing monthly men's activities. Our men pray and organize special activities periodically. One such event was an indoor activity that took place on Wednesday, May 31. The activity took the form of indoor games in which participants engaged in



healthy sports. Participants discussed spiritual lessons drawn from the games after which a session of prayer was held. To the glory of God, this activity strengthened both our men and other uses of the sporting space.

Youth Forum: It was a beautiful quarter for the Youth ministry. We had many soul-lifting activities that helped

us connect with each other but also provided avenues for soul-searching. One of such activities was titled, 'I See You' which highlighted some of the key issues around identity and how young people need to foreground their identities in Christ and move beyond the façade of multiple identities online. We also hosted Brother Jide Onanuga, a minister from one of our churches in Nigeria who challenged us on how we all can have a winning attitude and a can-do outlook backed by the Word of God. The event, which was aired via Zoom, was attended by young people across Canada.

Testimony Corner

Brother Gbenga Adejare testifies: No Missteps with God!

Growing up as a little boy in the gospel, I was always afraid of missteps even though I was not fully committed to staying saved after my first experience of salvation as a teen. The story changed in 1999 when I had a lifetime encounter with Jesus and knew He made a complete change in my life – at this point, my salvation was so real

*God led me to read **John 15:5** where I discovered that I could not but rely on God implicitly to be successful in life.*

There is no telling that I have never at any point in time comprehended the full picture of God's beautiful thought and plan for my life, since walking with God is a daily experience. Nevertheless, the journey with God has been amazingly rewarding. From choosing a career, choosing whom to marry, to making decisions on minutest matters, I have enjoyed God's tender guidance. All I do per time is to simply cast my care upon Him because He truly cares.

In 2020 the nascent pandemic presented my young family with a twist that made it difficult for us to know what to do but we trusted God for guidance. We soon realized that God had a perfect plan and timing for us to make Canada our new home. Where should we go in Canada? We do not know. We eventually settled to land in London, Ontario, where we were warmly received by a family but because we wanted to live close to our church family, we moved to Kitchener where we enjoyed warm fellowship with brethren. However, one important concern lingered

for me and my wife, we were trusting God to fulfill the promise He gave to us that we would 'eat the fruit of the land' when we arrived in the country. At this point, I was not gainfully employed, and my wife was a stay-at-home mother of two. As we prayed, we trusted God to direct our steps.

Miraculously, God provided a job for my wife as a faculty at the University of Calgary. I was also offered on adjunct position in the same university. Things began to get clearer at this point that God wanted us to move westward. Less than a year, God made a way for me to become a full-time faculty member in the same university. Truly, all things work together for good for God's children. I am grateful to God that even though I do not always have a full grasp of God's intent in situations I face daily, His sufficiency is my comprehensive life insurance coverage. Indeed, "...He hath done all things well." Mark 7:37.

Langley

The Hewlett's Enjoy Sweet Fellowship with Langley Saints.

The presence of the Lord was very sweet as the Canadian District Superintendent Chris Hewlett and his wife, Patsy, attended services at Langley, BC, on Sunday, July 16.

The Sunday morning service began with Brother Samuel Adenekan extending a warm welcome to all and acknowledging the presence of Brother Ritchie, Polin Ho, and brother Miguel Carganilla, Pastor of one of our churches in the Philippines. The Langley congregation



welcomed the visitors with a big round of applause. The children also joined in welcoming brother Chris with the

song, "He Got the Whole World in His Hands." Then Shola Akindele directed the congregation of about sixty in singing such songs as, "Holy Spirit Thou Art Welcome," "Revive Us Again," and "Surely Goodness and Mercy."

Phil Wong offered the congregational prayer before brother Samuel gave the announcements.

For the first special before the testimony service, the men's quarter sang, "Ready to Meet Him in the Glory Land."



Following the testimony service, Brother Richie read the scriptures from *Romans 12:1-10*. Before the sermon Tomisin rendered an inspiring solo, "I will Wait for You." Brother Chris preached on Prayer and Consecration using *Exodus 32:29 & 26* focusing on Moses telling the children of Israel to consecrate themselves to the Lord that He may bestow upon them a blessing. Prayer and consecration is the key to God's blessings. God would render the Heaven's, manifest His presence, and pour abundant blessings upon all who would humble themselves and make deep consecration through prayer. After the sermon, a wonderful prayer meeting ensued, and attendees felt the power of God around the altars.

Following the prayer meeting, everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck then a group photograph was taken with the Hewletts before they departed.



Baby Praise Chidiebere, Dedicated to the Lord

On Sunday, May 7 a baby dedication service was held for Praise Nneoma Chidiebere, daughter of Emmanuel and Sapphire Chidiebere. In a brief message at the dedicatory service, brother Samuel Adenekan, relayed the scriptural basis for this practice. He cited examples



of Simeon (*Luke 2:28*) and Hannah (*1 Samuel 1*). The dedication of a child to the Lord does not ensure that child's eternal destiny but simply a commitment by the parents to raise the child in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. *Ephesians 6:4*.

Brother Samuel held the baby as Phil Wong and Shola Akindele joined in offering dedicatory prayer for the infant. A certificate of dedication was presented to the parents.

The Akindele family rendered a quartet at the dedication service and parents of the baby shared their testimonies at this special time.

A Joyous Youth Camp

It was a great time of fellowship for three young people from Langley, Samuel and Simon Akindele and Immanuel Olulana, who participated in the 2023

Northwest Youth Camp held at Mayfield Lake between Silver Creek and Mossyrock Washington.

Brother Sameul Akindele, who served as a cabin counsellor at the Youth Camp, gave a full report of the event during the young people's service held on Sunday, July 30. Before he gave the report, Samuel, Simon, and Immanuel rendered an inspiring solo.

The key verse for the youth camp was *Philippians 4:8*, *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."*

The theme for the week, "Think on These Things," was introduced on day one, and then each day was spent focusing on different sections of the verse. The Tuesday discussion was about the phrase, "true and honest," Wednesday was "just and pure," Thursday was, "lovely and of good report," and Friday was "virtue and praise."

The lessons were designed to ensure attendees understood each phrase and how to apply the instruction "think on these things to their own lives."

Knowing how God is blessing our young people has been a thrill. Attendance at our young people services held on the last Sunday of each month has improved remarkably. Undoubtedly, our young people aim for a higher ground in their spiritual walk with the Lord.

Langley Ladies Group Meeting

On Saturday, September 2 our ladies had a wonderful time of sharing and encouraging one another in the Lord at the Ladies Group gathering held at our church premises for the first time after the Covid shutdown. The meeting focused on "Anxiety-Overcoming by the Blood of the Lamb and the Word of our Testimony." The ladies examined Biblically based strategies to overcome anxiety and stress.



Debbie Parsons, the Group Coordinator, encouraged attendees to apply the Word of God in dealing with stressful situations.

She likened a Christian without the armor of God to an orange without peel. A Christian without the armor of God is vulnerable to Satan's attack.

Diana Fadiora joined over Zoom from Winnipeg, encouraged everyone, and reinforced the discussion with an inspiring solo rendition of, *"Master, the Tempest is Raging."* After the uplifting discussion, the attendees enjoyed delicious food.

Ottawa

This summer has been a wonderful time for the church family here in Ottawa as the Lord has continued to prosper and increase us abundantly.

Welcoming New Faces and Fresh Beginnings

We joyfully welcomed several new members of our church family. Brother Rotimi Oba joined us from Nigeria, Sister Anne Shoyebo and her family of five from



Toronto, Johnson Uwem and his family of four from Calgary, and Brother Seyi Akerele, who joined us virtually from Saskatchewan. These additions have been a fulfilment of our prayers, ushering in much-needed changes in various aspects of our church life. One of

these significant changes includes the introduction of a Beginner/Primary Pal class for our growing number of children. The excitement radiates from our young ones each Sunday as they eagerly gather to learn about Jesus in engaging and interactive ways. These classes are a testament to the Lord's guidance as we nurture the faith of the next generation.

Structural Advancements for a Flourishing Church

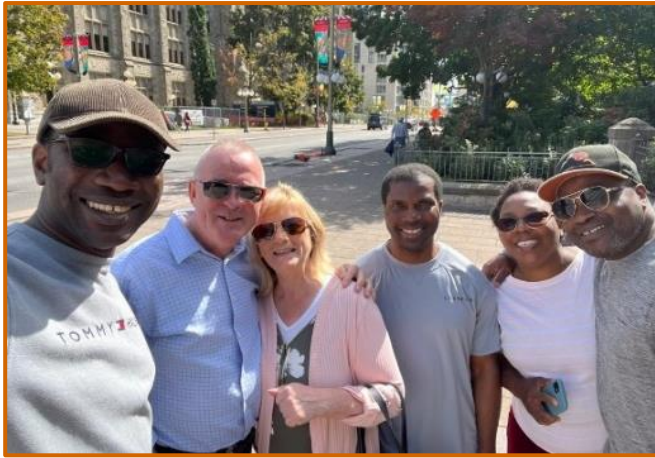
Another notable change has been the introduction of new departments to the church. To ensure the smooth functioning of various units within the church, our leadership in Ottawa has prayerfully established departments and appointed dedicated leaders. Timothy Oladiran, supported by Johnson Uwem, now leads our choir. Oreoluwa Osinnaiké takes charge of our media team, while Jaiyeola Okuazun leads the ushering unit. These developments enable us to serve our congregation with greater efficiency and care.

Fellowship and Abundant Blessings

Throughout the summer, we were blessed with numerous opportunities for fellowship. Our youths took the lead in organizing an evangelistic outing, bringing the message of Christ's love to those around us. We also witnessed an outpouring of God's grace in various forms, including spiritual renewal, new job opportunities, promotions, divine healing, provision, and countless other blessings. Our church was graced by the presence of guest ministers from afar. Brother Francis and Sister Christiana Odudu, from our church in Bexley, United Kingdom, was here with us in Ottawa for five days. He gave us the Word of God during our Sunday worship while his wife, Christiana, taught the Sunday school. We were greatly inspired and blessed. We also had brother Tony Ademuyiwa from WECA who stayed four days in Ottawa and preached on The Lord's Day. We were honoured to host ministers from Nigeria, including Sister Onanuga, Brother Osinnaiké, and Brother Nnamdi Eze. These visits were a great blessing to the church.

A Special Visit from Our District Superintendent

The highlight of our summer was the visit of our District Superintendent, Pastor Chris, and his lovely wife, Patsy



Hewlett. Their presence brought encouragement and a renewed sense of purpose to our church. We were blessed by their wisdom and guidance, reminding us of our place in God's grand design.

As we enter the next chapter of our journey, we continue to covet your prayers as we grow in faith, love and unity. May the Lord's grace continue to abound in our midst in Jesus' name.

Englee

O *taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Psalm 34:8.*

During the past few months, we have tasted and seen that the Lord is good. We have been blessed with many visitors from our community and God has certainly been in our midst. Pastor Kirby entitled a message, "O Taste and See!" During the after service, it was so encouraging to see several young people pray around the altar and taste of the goodness of God. Many have exercised their faith to be anointed and prayed over. It is such a blessing when we put our trust in an almighty God!

One of the selected choir numbers was an old hymn entitled, "How Tedious and Tasteless the Hours," written by John Newton. The writer thought of the contrasting seasons as a metaphor for our spiritual condition. Wilmore Hancock testifies that he has forgotten many things in his lifetime, but he well remembers they were

singing this song when he welcomed Jesus into his life back in 1963. Since then, he has had 60 years to prove that "when I am happy in Him, December is as pleasant as May."

In one of our night's services, the saints were encouraged to "trust and obey!" It is essential to have a complete trust in God and believe whatever He says. Jesus talked with the fishermen and instructed Simon to "launch out into the deep." When God calls us to do something we must be obedient and do His bidding; the evidence of His goodness and blessings will be all over our lives.

In Genesis, we read how God spoke the world into existence. Brother Wayne's sermon entitled, "Speak Lord," reminded the church that listening and responding is vital in our relationship with God. Samuel heard the Lord speak to him; he was listening and responded, *"Speak; for thy servant heareth."* **1 Samuel 3:10.** There are many voices in our world, but His voice makes the difference. The saints came to pray with a burden for their family, friends and neighbours that are unsaved. Praying that they too will hear His voice and respond.

Children are a blessing from the Lord. In **Matthew 1:14**, Jesus said, *"Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."* We are so excited when children are in our church services, and we can encourage them to join in the praise and worship. Sophia comes to visit her Nana and poppy Ellsworth and makes sure she attends the morning worship service before returning home. Several times we have been blessed as she willingly sings a song unto the Lord. Just recently we were blessed to have Nicole Arklie and her family visit. Her five-year-old son, Cole, stood and confidently sang the books of the Bible for us. How wonderful to see our children working for the Lord.

June 17, we held our annual Sunday school picnic at the Town fire hall. There was a great turnout of children and adults for this event. It was a fun time of fellowship; games and lots of food and treats for everyone!

More than ever, we need to have a burden for our families, friends, and neighbours to be saved! During a service in August, while singing the song, *"Let's Pray Down a Burden,"* the saints stood in the sanctuary and reached out to God on behalf of loved ones. We felt the assurance of God's faithfulness as we proceeded to sing, *"You can Tell when Someone is Praying."* The sweet presence of the Lord filled the house. This led into a sermon that echoed the theme of the prodigal son/daughter returning home. We wait the anticipation to see the results of answered prayers!



Portland Camp Meeting

Portland, OR
June 30 – July 14, 2024

Newfoundland Youth Camp

Roddickton, NL
July 22 – 26, 2024

Canadian Camp Meeting

Roddickton, NL
July 28 – August 4, 2024

Midwest Camp Meeting

July 29 – August 4, 2024

Jesus
THE LIGHT of THE WORLD
Apostolic Faith Church
Canadian District Headquarters
P.O. Box 47, Roddickton, NL A0K 4P0
Tel: # 709-457-2516
email: afmrodd@hotmail.com

