

It's been a long, harsh winter here on the Great Northern Peninsula.

Having snow on the ground in June month is a little out of the ordinary, but we finally feel that spring is in the air. It's a wondrous sight to watch God's plan for season to follow season unfold.

Two weeks of prayer at the church was announced for the Easter special meetings and the evidence that the saints had put in extra prayer was witnessed even before the meetings began. We know there's 'power in prayer'.

On Palm Sunday, the choir started with the selection "Jesus Comes" and it was a powerful number with the lyrics "Lo he comes, yes Jesus comes!" You could almost imagine Him riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, while yet looking ahead to when He comes back as King of kings. What an outstanding service! It was so During the testimony meeting we were beautiful! singing, "There's a miracle in the making" when the power fell. The saints started getting blessed all over the church and this continued for some time. The showers were falling on all who would receive. There was no preaching since the sweet, sweet Spirit continued to flow freely. An altar call was given and an invitation extended to all those needing a healing touch to come forward and be anointed and prayed for. Many received a touch of the Master's hand!

The night service was also amazing! Again, the spirit moved in a wonderful way and everybody seemed to be basking in the glow and drinking it in. What a season of refreshing! As the spirit led again during the testimony meeting, there was no message in song or preaching. One young lady, Tena Reardon, had been suffering in pain for two years, without a pain free day. The Lord healed her instantly. She witnessed to her healing in the same meeting. Since that night she has given her

testimony: "I suffered for over two years. Just to do my daily tasks I would have to take medication to help cope with the pain. But since that night, April 9, I haven't had to take a pain pill. There's no task too great for me to perform. On May 2, I met with my doctor in St. John's. I was previously scheduled to have a high risk surgery, but after some testing the doctor looked at me, puzzled and said, "go home and enjoy your summer, you don't need the surgery. Everything looks great!" I thank God every day for my healing!

Others had been feeling weak spiritually and needed a touch. There was certainly enough for everyone! The musicians kept playing and singing and it was a very joyous time indeed! It felt like a prelude of what was to come!

Easter Meetings

We were honored and blessed to have our Superintendent General, Rev. Darrel Lee and his wife,

Debbie, join us for the Easter special meetings. On Thursday, April 18, there was





a combined concert which included

selections from the three local churches including the Sunday school children and youth. Beautiful solos, duets, choir songs and other combinations all made for an enjoyable evening.

On Good Friday, an evangelistic service was held. Rev. Darrel Lee presented his sermon using *St. Matthew* 16:21-25 as his text. *He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.*

On Easter Sunday morning the three local congregations joined once again in Roddickton for an awesome service to commemorate and celebrate the resurrection of the Son of God. Congregational songs such as "He's Alive Again" and "He Lives" were sung with rejoicing! Wonderful testimonies of victory were given. One sister, Mae Blanchard, witnessed saying, "Something happened to me! I was in so much pain after a serious fall. I received not only healing for my body but a refreshing from Heaven. I also was in a valley experience for three years but God has touched me!"

Pastor Howard Canning presented the resurrection message using St. Luke 24:1-6 and I Peter 1:3 as his text. We have a lively hope, one that maketh not ashamed. Lives are changed because of the power of the resurrection. The sermon on the *Lord's Supper* was given by Pastor George Burton, using St. Matthew 26:26 as his text. We were encouraged to examine ourselves before partaking of the emblems. Who knows, the next supper we enjoy could be the 'Marriage Supper of the Lamb!' As each one knelt in prayer, to catch a vision of the sufferings of Christ, the Lord's Supper was served by the ministry. The sermon on the washing of the disciples' feet was presented by Rev. Christopher Hewlett. He used St. Matthew 28:19, 20, St. John 12:3 and St. John 13:2 as his text. We should not think that any service is too small or humble for us to perform. This ordinance portrays our level of commitment, our depth of consecration. Jesus told Peter if he did not perform the example given he would have no part with Him. Thankfully, Peter responded in a positive manner.

Sunday morning, May 14, we had a family service dedicated to mothers. There were presentations to the youngest and oldest mother, choir selections, congregational songs, special singings and tributes to mothers. It was a token of appreciation to all the moms.

We enjoyed a lovely Mother's Day program on Sunday evening. Beautiful songs by the children and youth, group exercises, a skit and congregational singing all created a great evening of celebrating our mothers. The traditional presentation of red and white roses was a highlight that was loved by all. Those who had their

moms in the audience placed a red rose on her. For those whose moms were passed away, they came forward and placed a white rose on the Bible in memory of her.



On June 11, we held our annual Promotion Sunday. All the Sunday school looked their finest as they came forward and sang for their parents and receive awards for faithful attendance. Many were anxious to find out who their teacher would be for the next year. We thank the department heads, teachers, musicians, ushers and workers for their time and efforts invested in making Sunday school a success. We are certain the dividends will be abundant as God blesses each task performed.

Isaiah 61:11 "For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations."

Springtime is a time of reawakening. After the winter season it is good to see the reviving and refreshing of nature. It reminds us of the greatness of our Creator. The blessings of the Lord are like springtime to the soul, for they surely revive and refresh our innermost being.

Thankfully, God's blessings are available during all seasons, and He is faithful to pour them upon us when we reach out to Him. We thank God that we have experienced His presence through the winter months and even now into spring.



Mother's Day, May 14, the morning service focused on honoring mothers. There were readings and singing done by the congregation. The Sunday school children and teacher, Phyllis, sang "Praying for Someone like me." At the end of the service all mothers were presented with a rose and a Tim's gift card as a token of appreciation.

As we look forward to the months ahead, we are living by faith, expecting the continuance of the Lord's blessing and souls added to the church daily such as should be saved

Like the words of the song, "We are pressing on the Upward Way," here at Thompson we are continuing to look forward to the prize.

On Mother's Day morning the congregation sang songs to pay tribute to mothers. Afterward, each mother was presented with a rose and a Tim Hortons gift card.

The services here, although we are small in number, remain a blessing to all in attendance. The senior home services are wonderful. To see tears run down the face of one of these dear elders, as they sing, thrills our souls indeed.

June 1, we were honored to have Rev. Christopher Hewlett and his wife, Patsy, come for a visit. On Friday evening we all enjoyed a time of fellowship and good food at a local restaurant.

Then on Saturday afternoon some of us drove to Setting Lake where one of the brothers and his wife has a camp site. There, we enjoyed a delicious meal cooked on an open fire pit in God's great outdoors, followed by a ride in a pontoon boat. A great day of fellowship indeed!

Prayer meeting was held on Sunday morning, followed by a potluck in the social room. At the evening service we were blessed to have several visitors join us. Beautiful choruses intermingled with spirit-filled testimonies made for an inspired song service. We were favored with three specials in song as well. Rev. Hewlett brought greetings along with announcements from our headquarters church. During these announcements it was disclosed that Pastor Michael and his wife, Bonnie, will be relocating to Englee, NL, where Pastor George Burton and his wife, Barbara, will be retiring from full time ministry. It saddened our hearts

to receive the news that there will not be another Pastor sent to Thompson, Manitoba, due to the declining numbers attending the church. Please keep all those affected by these new happenings in your prayers.

Rev. Hewlett presented a spirit-filled message entitled "God's Purifying Works using Romans 8 as his opening text. His message contained encouraging words for all. We thank God for individuals who carry the mantle of leadership and we pray for them continually.

In conclusion, our close knit group is holding on in faith, believing that God's Spirit is working in the hearts of people in this community, and that souls are being drawn to the old rugged cross. May God bless you all!

Spring represents new life; we thank Jesus for the new life He gave when He saved us through His precious blood. Jesus said, "Come onto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

May 14, being Mother's Day, our morning service was dedicated to our mothers. Pastor Eric did an interview with the oldest mother in our church, Mary Jane Hopkins who is eighty-eight years old. They talked about raising a family when she was young, in comparison to raising a family today. Everyone enjoyed it.

At 6 p.m. we had a Mother's Day program. Our Sunday school children did an awesome job with singing and reciting their parts. Once again we would like to thank the teachers who put together a beautiful program.

May 21, we had an ordinance service. Jesus said, "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19. Jesus wants us to remember His suffering and death until He comes back for His bride. God is still good to His people, let's take courage and serve the Lord until He returns.

Spring is really a new display of God's presence and power – a renewal which comes from the putting forth of Divine energy. And what He does in the natural world, He also does in the spiritual realm. There are times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord the Winnipeg Church is experiencing, which come both to the church and to the individual souls. We have been praying for a time like this, and expect them to come; it is a time of new life and new spiritual energy.

Worship Centre: We were issued with an eviction notice for September 2017 at the location where we've been worshipping since the beginning of the group. The church prayed to God for an intervention and we found another place to rent a few meters away.

During the transition from our old place of worship to the new place, a young lady was searching for our church, the Apostolic Faith. She was having difficulty finding it but because of her persistence and trust in God, she was able to find it. She has since prayed and received the Lord into her heart.

Evangelical Outreach: The church felt the need to evangelize to the community. After much prayer, we approached a few senior care facilities. To God's glory, we have started visiting one of the homes on weekly basis, another is once a month. We have a minimum of twenty seniors in attendance. Usually we sing old gospel hymns, share testimonies, present a short message from the Word of God and pray with them. It is always impressive to see the excitement on the faces of these seniors. Thank God for this great opportunity. Rev. Chris and Patsy also joined in one of the visitations.



Visit from our District Superintendent, Rev. Chris Hewlett, and his wife, Patsy:

Great excitement filled the members as the long awaited visit from the Canadian Superintendent arrived. Visitors joined us for an evening service, Friday, May 26. The service started with an organ prelude and thereafter the choir members sang two beautiful renditions. Testimonies of victory over sin and the world were shared by members. A sister testified how God saved her early in life, she was fortunate to be born in a Christian home and how God saw her through her education. After seeking God for a partner, she married a fine Christian man. Both are serving the Lord.

Rev. Chris preached from *Joshua 1:1-3* on the subject "*Stepping upon some New Ground.*" He encouraged us that great opportunities await those who surrender all to

God. The same promise given to Joshua is a sure promise to whosever will.

Sunday Service, May 28, started with prayer at 9:30 a.m. A prelude was given by the choir singing "Come Holy Spirit," a song with a prayer to revive the church. Also, a trumpet soloist accompanied by an organist played a series of renditions.

The choir members treated the audience with more songs "Raise up an Army," arranged by Steve & Vikki Cook. This was accompanied with a trumpet by Foluseke Olusanya from our Chicago church, Caribbean Medley, written by Donnie McClurkin.

The Spirit of the Lord descended as the congregation sang "There is a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place." Les Ellsworth, visiting from Thompson opened the service with prayer and thereafter two kids were dedicated to the Lord by our superintendent with instruction to train them in the way of the Lord.

The Bible reading was brought by Brother Samson Jimaza from *Matthew 5:1-16* after which the choir sang "Peace Be Still" by Mary Ann Baker. Pelumi Enejoh sang the last special "We'll Talk it Over" before Rev. Chris Hewlett brought the message on the **Beatitudes**. His sermon was centered on the prerequisites to be blessed. These requirements were to be poor in spirit, those that mourn for their unrighteousness, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful who have obtained God's mercy and extending same to others, the pure in heart, holiness emphasized, peacemakers and those who persecuted and reviled for righteousness sake.

The message brought people to their knees closing the service with a hymn "Just as I am." The congregation prayed for quite a while after the service.

After the prayer session, the church had a group photograph with our Canadian Superintendent and his wife. The total in attendance for the Sunday service was sixty-seven.

Tuesday Prayer Meeting: Again, the Superintendent and his wife attended the Tuesday prayer meeting held in one of our saint's homes. On behalf of the church, an enlarged group picture was presented to them in appreciation for their visit. Close to thirty members attended



The spring of 2017 has been a refreshing period, a time of restoration and revival for our church. We are so grateful to God and the leadership of the church for the spiritual backing. We pray that God will continue to unite His church and fulfill His mission to extend the frontier of the gospel in Winnipeg and its environs.

God told Moses in *Exodus 23:29-30* that little by little He would work on their behalf until they inherited the land. As we look over the past few months we too can see God working little by little on our behalf too, and we believe victory is ahead.

Sunday after Sunday we go into God's house and we feel His presence through song, through His Word and when we gather in prayer. We experience sweet fellowship with each other and with the Holy Spirit as our souls are blessed. How sweet is the Spirit as it moves among His people!

Since our last newsletter we have lost a dear brother in Christ. Peter Quinlan was a faithful encourager of the brethren as well as a faithful supporter of the Gospel of Christ. Many times he attended church when he could barely walk or stand. We thank God for him and all our brethren. He is missed very much by us all, but today he is rejoicing with the Lord and is enjoying the fruits of his labor.

We have had several meetings at our nearby senior homes. What a blessing to be able to worship with them on a monthly basis. We all leave the services feeling encouraged.

Our Easter Sunday services were wonderful as we enjoyed the presence of our risen Savior. During our ordinance service we had a man join us who believed in the washing of the saint's feet but had never followed that commandment that Jesus gave us. As he took part in that ordinance he was so excited and thrilled by the

Spirit of the Lord. His comments were, "I will tell others!"

We see changes in the lives of those around us, and we are expecting them to be won for Christ. Pray for us as we pray for you. Together we can expect God to perform great things!

We have so much to PRAISE the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits."

The week leading up to Easter Sunday, we had special nightly prayer meetings. On Good Friday night we had an ordinance service. The Spirit of God truly blessed in our midst and one of our sisters received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost during feet washing ordinance.

Easter Sunday Singspiration

On Easter Sunday, the Kitchener saints orchestrated a Singspiration entitled "Nail it to the Cross, get it under the Blood." The evening commenced with a trumpet/piano instrumental "The Old Rugged Cross." The combined choir entered and proceeded to sing "Hallelujah, to the Lamb." Throughout the evening we were blessed with songs glorifying the cross by soloists, trios, quartets, group singings and congregational songs.

An amazing recitation was performed by Alexa and Elliana, two of our Sunday school children, entitled, "That Tomb is still Empty." With such joy and excitement, they presented the Easter story letting us know that Jesus still lives and that tomb is still empty! The Sunday school children then joined with them and did a wonderful job singing "Jesus is the Lord." Some of the lyrics of this song are "Every knee shall bow, every tongue will shout, Jesus is the Lord." It doesn't matter who we are, where we live, whether we are rich or poor, young or old, one day we will all stand before God.

Another highlight of the night was the silent testimony skit performed by our youth. Deidre Randell, their youth leader, encouraged them to individually write their request. It was amazing to see how a desire for God to direct their future was expressed. Others were burdened for unsaved loved ones and for loved ones that needed a healing touch. Some told of sicknesses they've encountered in their young life and others about different situations they needed to bring to God. What a blessing as each one knelt before the cross, bringing every need

to Him! With excitement they arose, displaying how Jesus had answered prayer, performed healings, or how they believe that God has heard their prayers and will grant their hearts' desire. Please pray for our youth!

The evening ended with our Young Adult choir singing "Nail it to the Cross." The words of this song are so touching and powerful! "Nail it to the Cross, get it under the blood. Drown your pain and every stain in the mercy flood. Nail it to the cross, find hope and forgiveness, kneel at the tree, walk away free, nail it to the cross." An invitational was sent forth inviting one and all to come and bring all your needs to the old rugged cross. It was so thrilling to see both young and old take hold of the hammer and hit a nail on the cross for a burden they were carrying! What a blessing it is that Jesus was willing to be nailed to the cross and willing to die for whosoever will. Nail it to the cross, get under the blood. Jesus is COMING soon.

Mother's Day Sunday school Program

In our Sunday morning service all of our Sunday school participated in a Mother's Day program entitled, "A Mother's Heart." It started with all the Sunday school singing "Mom you mean all the World to Me." Throughout the program there were songs of appreciation sung to show the love we feel for our mothers and also grandmothers. The youth group performed and sang "You Raise me Up" and reminded us of all the hard work and dedication of our mothers.

To God be the glory for the Spirit's faithfulness in blessing the saints. It's such a thrill to see and feel the unity of the saints in receiving blessings and experiences from the Lord. We have heard testimonies of victory. One sister witnessed God's power in helping her breathing problem. The Lord still moves among the church with sanctifying power. On a Sunday morning one sister reached out and claimed her sanctification.

Mother's day service was very touching. Singing groups warmed the hearts of all of us with the beautiful hymns, choruses and reading from the Word in Proverbs, "who can find a virtuous woman?" What a sweet spirit!

There were seventy-two mothers in attendance and each one received a rose. Let's keep praying for each mother, for 'The Hand that Rocks the Cradle is the Hand that Rules the World'.

The Lord has called two sisters from our church to receive their eternal reward. Do keep praying for the families. May we continue to labor for the Lord because soon and very soon the Lord will return. What a day that will be!

Special meetings were held at the Apostolic Faith Church during the weekend of May 21. The guest speakers were Rev. Robert Downey, Director of North America Work, who attended with his wife, Cheryl, and Rev. Chris



Hewlett, the Canadian District Superintendent, who attended with his wife, Pat. Other visitors came from Edmonton, Calgary, Grand Prairie, Alberta and Kitchener, Ontario. A highlight of the special meetings was the thanksgiving expressed for God's protection and provision during a devastating fire that Fort McMurray experienced a year ago, which destroyed many homes and parts of the city. The special meetings coincided with the one-year anniversary. Although the memory of the fire is firmly etched in the minds of the Fort McMurray residents, they are thankful for how the city has rebounded and the green grass this year is especially appreciated after the devastation caused by the fire. There are still many blackened trees, but construction is booming as homes are being rebuilt. Marjorie Reid, the pastor in Fort McMurray, and her husband, Edwin, lost their home (parsonage) in the fire, but they are anticipating their new home being completed by the end of August.

The Friday evening service began with the piano, guitar and accordion playing "Revive Us Again" followed by the choir singing "It's a song Holy Angels cannot Sing." The congregational singing began with "We're in Father's House" and later in the service a mixed quartet sang "I've come too Far to Turn Back Now." A mixed

trio from Calgary sang the last special "Ancient Words." Brother Chris titled his sermon "The Great Challenge" and contrasted Adam and Eve, who failed to heed God's commandment to not eat the forbidden fruit, with Paul and Silas, who met the challenge of being beaten and cast into prison by praying and singing praises to God. Brother Chris encouraged the congregation to overcome the challenges that threaten to hinder them in the Gospel and to stay true to God and His Word.

On Saturday evening, a group of Fort McMurray church members and visitors met in the home of Edwin and Marjorie for a time of singing, instrumental selections and refreshments. It was a wonderful time of fellowship.

Since our congregation is renting a facility from another church group, they are not able to hold Sunday morning services. Their Sunday school was held on Sunday afternoon and it included the students singing a special welcome song to all the first-time visitors. After the congregational singing led by Marcy Cassell, a young boy from Edmonton, Ire Oladunni, played "He's got the Whole World in His Hands" on the piano. Marcy and her daughter, Sarah, sang "God has a Plan for my Life." Brother Chris and Pat's great-granddaughter, Scarlet Rose Hewlett, was born on May 17, and her parents requested that she be dedicated during the Sunday school time. The dedication included the congregation singing "Jewels," as well as scripture reading and dedicatory prayer by Brother Chris. Following Sunday school, a delicious potluck dinner was served in the social room.

The Sunday evening service began with the piano playing "Near the Cross" followed by a violin trio playing a classical number. A group from Edmonton and Calgary, including children, sang, "The Holy City" with Stella Myofalso singing the verses. A ladies' trio from Fort McMurray sang, "When I Stood up from the Altar of Prayer, my Sins stayed Down." For the last special, a mixed quartet sang "Lord, I need to Meet you There." Brother Bob took his text from Mark 16:15, known as the *Great Commission*, and he encouraged the congregation to uphold the Apostolic Faith doctrines and boldly proclaim the gospel wherever they are. Brother Bob requested that the congregation sing "At an Altar of Prayer" for the last song, not knowing that there was a Sunday school mom there who had told the Lord that if that song was sung, she would pray and get saved. The Lord had been dealing with her heart for some time and during the week she was singing that particular chorus.

She kept her word and was wonderfully saved, resulting in much rejoicing throughout the sanctuary.

The main industry in Fort McMurray is the oil sands industry, which produces petroleum that is shipped to refineries in Canada and the United States. On Monday, Craig and Marcy Cassell took the Downeys to visit the oil sands and see how the oil is produced. Craig works in administration and he was a very informative guide during the tour. On Tuesday evening the church members came by the Reid home for another time of fellowship before the Downeys departed for home on Wednesday, feeling very blessed by their first trip to Fort McMurray.

Once again after a mild, but long winter here in the Greater Toronto Area, everyone is happy to see the greenery and flowers blooming. This reminds us of His Word in *Matthew* 6:28: "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin". Yes indeed, God takes care of His own people and we feel His blessings in many ways.

Our congregation here in Toronto was blessed with two new births. A healthy baby boy was born a few days after the Family Day and a baby girl was born after Mother's Day. O what a wonderful joy to have them both in our church; even just to hear their cry is such a delight!

Over the past several weeks the youth have been proactively preparing special numbers for our services. As well, new musicians from their group are starting to surface and sharing their God given talents back to the glory of His name. We have someone playing the piano and two others playing violin. It is our prayer that God will help cultivate and refine these talented youth to be used in His vineyard. We believe that God has a big plan for our church here in Toronto. To God be the glory.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalms 133:1

We are most appreciative to the Lord for the grace and strength He provides each and every day to live for Him and proclaim this glorious Gospel. The Apostolic Faith in Langley has reached a milestone of seventy wonderful years in which those past and present have declared to the region that "Jesus Saves!"

To commemorate this milestone we held an anniversary special service on June 11. Pastor Chet King, a former pastor, was the guest speaker for this event. His wife, Verna, was also here with us.

Much preparation had gone into readying ourselves for this momentous occasion. Spring cleaning of the grounds was more intense this year with painting, redecoration, fence repair, etc. In addition, activities such as decorating, special vocal practicing for the service, etc., were attended to. We are certainly grateful for the selfless contributions of the saints and all those involved.

When the date arrived we were pleasantly surprised by the turnout. Visiting folks from the area and those who travelled several hours to take part were in attendance. In total we hosted approximately fourteen visitors with the total attendees being between fifty-sixty. Praise the Lord!



Our choir began the service with songs and concluding with the song "I came here Expecting God to Move." Such beautiful voices blended in harmony.

The remainder of our service consisted of historical accounts and testimonies ranging from the 1940s to our present day. A report was given of the process in which the church moved from Kingsway and Rupert, Vancouver to 207 Street in Langley. Many in attendance were present for the acquisition of the property.

Pastor Chet presented the Word in which he recounted the story of the children of Israel marching around Jericho. At first, they marched around several times without seeing a result. The task in itself being simple, still they needed to be entirely obedient to see God's direction through to completion. Finally, on the seventh time the walls came down! The Lord brings the victory! We too must be persistent and precise in our obedience to God's instruction and continue to spread the Gospel where we are called.

Following the service we enjoyed a time of prayer in which we all felt the presence of the Lord. It is by prayer that the church was established. Through prayer the church has been sustained and the church will move forward through that same means, prayer. We must never diminish its role in our lives and service to God.

In concluding the whole event, we shared a delicious BBQ and potluck dishes. At first when seeing the crowd, we doubted we had enough food to accommodate, however we prayed and asked the Lord to ensure the food went as far as needed. It turned out there was abundance and even leftovers enough for folks to take platefuls home!

Pastor Chet and Pastor Scott cut the 70th anniversary commemorative cake and served the congregation with gladness. I believe it is safe to say we all were spiritually and physically fed until full! Praise God for His smile of approval on our gathering.

All this goes to prove that when we, the family of God, pull together and work in unity and obedience to the Lord's instruction, that God gives us the victory. Satan's walls of opposition come tumbling down at God's command.

Upcoming Events 2017

Portland Camp Meeting

Portland, OR July 2 – July 16

Youth Camp Roddickton, NL July 17 – 21

Midwest Camp Meeting

Fredericktown, MO August 1 – August 7

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