



Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus... Hebrews 12:1-2 KJV



Dear Pastor and Church Family,

What a blessing it is to serve our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, and to know that we have an eternal home in Heaven! This past month I had the blessing of being able to preach two funerals, both for individuals that I did not know. In addition, Rebekah and I were involved in a community event as volunteers.

The first funeral I conducted occurred in South Indian Lake, Manitoba, a reservation about four hours away. The gentleman, Murdo, who passed away, I met as a result of praying with his son during our hospital chapel ministry. At the funeral, there were a couple hundred people present who heard a clear Gospel presentation and an invitation to accept Him. These funerals on average last four to six hours. After the funeral, I learned that Murdo's daughter had become the chief for this reservation in the previous night's election. What a blessing it was to reach a northern community for Christ. On a side note, this reservation has had an independent Baptist missionary work for at least the last thirty-five years. Because of this missionary's short absence, I was asked to conduct the funeral.

The second funeral came about as a result of making a relationship with the funeral director, Jim, and his staff Chris and Brain. I told Jim that if there were any families requesting a minister for a funeral, but did not have one, then I could do it. This past Friday, I conducted a funeral for a retired miner. When I asked the bereaved partner if she would like the 23rd Psalm read at the funeral, she asked me, "What is that". I was thrilled to be able to present a clear Gospel presentation to those who had never heard the Gospel before. Some of those attending this funeral were long-time residents of the community or established business people, to include the president of the local steelworker's and teacher's union. We have not heard of any salvations at these two funerals, but the Gospel was clearly given, as well as an invitation to accept Christ.

On Monday, Labour Day, of last week, I met the union president during their annual community barbecue. One of our occasional church attendees is a secretary for this union, and needed extra help. So, my wife and I volunteered and met many people: retired miners, active teachers, active miners, and others associated with the union. This was an answer to one of my continual prayers for new avenues to meet the locals with whom I can share the Gospel.

In regards to my wife's pregnancy, we have been able to hear the baby's heartbeat three different times. I happily report that Rebekah is healthy and the baby is growing as expected. This coming Friday, September 14th, we will be learning the gender of our baby, and will reveal this information to our family, friends, neighbours, and church people on Saturday, September 15th. We have invited our next door neighbour, and Rebekah's mid-wife, both of whom are lost, to this celebration. In times like this when our family lives so far away, we are very thankful for video chat technology. The interesting fact is that September 15th is exactly one year since we moved into our current residence. God has done so much in a year. We first moved to Thompson fourteen months ago as of September 1st, and moved to Canada twenty-seven months ago, as of September 2nd. Time sure flies!

Outside of the funerals and the hospital ministry, we are continuing our regular door to door outreach. Soon this will not be easy, as we have already encountered two frosts and are anticipating snow as early as next week. Thank you for enabling us to reach this community for Christ, and for holding us up in prayer!



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