

Meditorial

By Rev. Jim Paul

Singing has always been a part of the Christian faith. Some believers offer, what the Psalmist calls, "joyful noise unto the Lord", while others sing to God with melodious praise. Truly, the earmark of one's experience with Christ is singing. Is it any wonder that songs of praise would grace the Christian Church, when our Lord Himself was introduced to the world by means of a song? Luke recounts in his story of Jesus' birth that "there was a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:13,14) Sweet baby Jesus was welcomed by a song. And what a grand song it was. The angelic host proclaimed that "peace" had come to earth.

Christ's birth brings real "peace" because in Christ there is: Proof of God's love. Time after time we turned against God and went our own stubborn way, but "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son". (Jn. 3:16) Jesus' birth proves that God loves you.

Escape from loneliness. In a recent Gallup poll, Americans identified "loneliness" as their foremost problem. A complete answer to loneliness is found in Christ who promised His followers that, "He would never leave them, nor forsake them". (Matt. 28:21)

Acceptance before God. Jesus, God's Son opened the way for us into the very presence of God. He said "I am the way, the truth, and the life no man can come unto the Father but by Me".

Cleansing from sin. In the days before Christ's birth, God's people only knew a partial cleansing from sin. The blood of rams upon the altar could not compare with Jesus blood, the sinless lamb of God. He was born to die so that we might know real forgiveness.

Eternity. The years that make one single life is like a drop in the bucket when compared to eternity. Jesus came to conquer death and to prepare a people to live with Him in blessed eternity.

What kind of songs do you sing? If you have submitted your life to Christ, you will be singing a song like the angels sang over Bethlehem. It will be a song of PEACE, because the Christ of Christmas reigns in your heart.

Castor Baptists well on way to new home

The Castor Valley Baptist Church building fund is now nosing \$15,000, most of the money coming through the sale of the congregation's Russell Village property.

Much more funding will be required before the Baptists can carry out their plan to build a new church along the highway between Russell and Embrun but the cur-

rent total is encouraging, said Rev. James Paul.

Sale of the historic Russell Baptist Church — which had become impractical — raised \$12,500 and an auction of the church's contents and donated items brought in another \$3,500, the reverend said.


He pointed out that the congregation is only 30 members

strong which doesn't provide a solid base for a building project at this time.

"But there are several other people on the fringes and we hope they'll soon become full members."

When the project is finally launched, most of the work will be done by church members. Rev. Paul said a site between Russell and Embrun is preferred because most members come from Russell and points east.

The Baptists hold Sunday services at Russell Public School and other meetings at the Kenmore church.




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Dec. 17-22	Mon. to Wed.	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
	Thurs. - Fri.	9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
	Sat.	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dec. 24		9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dec. 31		9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dec. 25-26		CLOSED
Jan. 1-2		CLOSED

FRANCINE DIGNARD
MANAGER

443-3113

528 Rue Notre-Dame Embrun

Castor Valley Baptist Church



Minister—Rev. James Paul, ph. 821-2144
Meeting in the Russell Public School
9:30 a.m.—Family Worship Service
Nursery and Children's church provided
10:30 a.m.—Coffee and Conversation
11:00 a.m.—Family Bible School

Sunday Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kenmore Church our Christmas Play will be presented. Sunday Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kenmore Church we will have a "Candlelight Christmas Carol Service."

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