Baffin Island

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Hitz Family
April 2018

Emmanuel Independent
Baptist Church
Pastor Frank Herndon
704-718-8239

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BAFFIN BITS:

ARCTIC ATMOSPHERE
Iqaluit: April 28, '18
10 F (-12 C)
Wind chill 1 F (-18 C)
Sunrise: 6:08 a.m.
Sunset: 7:11 p.m.

Dear Supporting Churches and Friends,

It is an exciting time of year in the North as the days are finally getting longer! Winters can be extra tiring as there is little to no sunlight. The lure is to sleep all winter and hardly sleep through the long days of summer.

Our lives and ministry continue to stay very busy, but blessed. Our church group is gradually becoming a true core of believers who are befriending, caring, and praying for one another. We are always very cautious when dealing with the souls of the people here; there is so much spiritual ignorance and confusion. Jesus spoke of "two-fold children of hell": people who were converted from one false view of God to a new false view of God. Even with the best of intentions, we can achieve the same things if we are not careful to follow God's design in dealing with people. This reality can happen in one's own culture but it is even easier to take place in cross-cultural situations. In our ministry in the North, I am positive that we could have had many, many "professions" of faith by this time; but it is far easier to see a person mentally assent to pray a prayer than it is for a person to truly understand the Gospel and submit themselves to the God of it.

This past month we had a very exciting event as we married a young couple in our church building. After three years of befriending them, and countless visits, towards the end of last year, first the man, then the woman privately accepted the Lord, and then came to tell us. Shortly afterward they made a public profession of faith before our church group. Their decision has been accompanied by visible changes and we continue to disciple them. For their wedding, there was standing room only in our small auditorium; many local family members came and heard the Gospel and saw its working in the lives of the couple. Please pray for this young couple and their family.

Another development here is that we have started monthly men's meetings. I have been very encouraged with the spiritual conversations the men of the church are able to have. My desire is to see these meetings help the men to grow in their own leadership skills. We have four men who come consistently to services; please pray that these men would continue to grow to be used of the LORD as leaders.

This past month I was able to go to Israel with a few dear friends. The LORD grew my understanding greatly through this trip. I had to miss one Sunday here in Iqaluit, but the men of the church stepped up and took care of it. As a Pastor, I found that very encouraging.

We could not be doing what we are doing here without your prayers and financial support. I hope that the recent blessings we are experiencing in the north will encourage you that "your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:58

Christ's for the Arctic,
Paul J., Loretta,
Paul Jon, Kenny, Micah, Josiah, Julia, MaryBeth, Elaina, and Eden Hitz

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Isaiah 42:4 "The isles shall wait for His law."

Praises:
1. Church growth
2. A Godly Wedding

Prayer Requests:
1. God's wisdom in our lives
2. Spiritual growth of believers