



10 Years in Nunavut!

Dear Friends and Supporting Churches,

The month of July marked a true milestone in our lives: it has now been ten years since we moved from the United States to Nunavut, Canada. Our first year was spent in Rankin Inlet interning with the Nathan Jones family. Then, nine years ago, we moved 730 miles (1,168 kilometers) east to the capital city of Iqaluit. With all that has transpired in our lives, it is hard to say that “time flies.” In this update letter we will try to highlight some of the LORD’s working over the past ten years.



October 2010

A growing family – We moved to Nunavut with two sons, ages one year and ten months. We now have nine children and our oldest recently turned twelve years old. Our lives are obviously abundantly full of the LORD’s blessings (and full of the accompanying responsibilities).

God’s faithfulness – Ten years ago, we were stepping out trusting that the LORD would meet and direct in every need. Our monthly support was extremely low, and we honestly did not know how everything would work out. We are now ten years into living out the faithfulness of God. Truly, the missionary’s greatest need is not a system of financial support (although our appreciation for our support is great!), but an accurate dependence upon the God they have gone to proclaim.

A building/home – Still lacking in financial support, we moved to Iqaluit into an apartment that cost us an average of \$3,000/mo. Those first four years in Iqaluit we were a bit nomadic, as we lived in four different housing units before purchasing our current building. God’s hand was upon us for good, including acquiring for us a mortgage against great odds, providing all the funds needed to renovate an unliveable building, and sending much help for the manual labour, so that today we own a building which houses our family as well as the meeting room for the church.



September 2019

A growing church family – When we moved to Iqaluit, we did not know anyone. We knew the process would be long and would require much effort and waiting in order to see friendships developed and eventually blossom into the salvation of souls and the gathering of a body of believers into Iqaluit Baptist Church. Today, nine years later, we are experiencing what humanly seemed impossible in 2010. For years, the only souls that came to church were young children; we even became



known by some as the church that merely ran a children’s club. It was a memorable Sunday when an adult first came to a service; we looked at each other and said, “It actually really happened!” Even after that first adult came to church, it was still years before we saw adults coming to church regularly. It was even years more before we saw the first converts (eight years in total). We know that we have so much more to learn in order to be all that God would have us to be as His representatives, but we thank Him for all that He has done thus far. Though still a small church, we have become a solid core group of around twenty people. Our focus these days is on discipling the believers we have and continuing to witness to the many who still need to be reached.



Before and After



Supporter's faithfulness – In meditating on our ten years in Nunavut, our minds are quickly drawn to the blessing that you all have been to us over the years. Many of you, churches and individuals, have prayed for and/or financially supported us from the very beginning. God has used you to meet so many of our needs. Just starting to count all that has been invested during these ten years is humbling. THANK YOU to each and every one who has prayed for the ministry here and generously given to meet our financial needs. Only the LORD knows who all has done what. May He bless you greatly for your love and care for our family and the precious souls of the Inuit whom we have been called to serve.

The next step.... – It is natural at this milestone to think about not just the past ten years, but the next ten years as well. If God should tarry His return and keep us in this present world, what will the next ten years hold for our life and ministry? Some of our vision for the next years of the work in Iqaluit are as follows:

- To see our children mature into Godly adults who know and love Him with all of their hearts.
- To see the believers here increasingly grounded in their knowledge of and relationship with Christ to become Godly leaders, spouses, and parents capable of making disciples of others.
- To apply for and receive dual citizenship in Canada for me and Loretta and our two US-born children (our Canadian-born children will automatically be eligible for dual citizenship). We have started the process of preparing all the paperwork.
- To see our church group take the next steps into officially organizing and acquiring it's own building.

Again, ten years is a long time that many of you have supported us in Nunavut. THANK YOU for your prayers and financial support. May the LORD be exalted in this far northern end of the world until He returns.

Christ's for the Arctic,

Paul J. & Loretta,

Paul Jon, Kenny, Micah, Josiah, Julia, MaryBeth, Elaina, Eden, and Carrie Hitz

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

Praises:

1. 10 years of life and ministry in the north
2. A small but growing assembly of believers
3. The LORD's faithful provision

Prayer Requests:

1. Spiritual growth of our family
2. The church group to be stable, to organize and acquire its own building.
3. To acquire dual citizenship in Canada

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Iqaluit: Sep. 10, '19
42 F (6 C)

Sunrise: 5:42 a.m.

Sunset: 7:20 p.m.