



Silent Night

Holy night!
Son of God,
Love's pure light

December 7th, 2008

Dear Friends:

Isaiah the prophet asks God - "Lord, look upon us from heaven, where you live in your holiness and glory. Where is your great concern for us? Where is your power? Where are your love and compassion? Why don't you tear the sky open and come down?"

God did not answer the prayer on Isaiah's terms but on His. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord".

It is the Christmas Season. What a beautiful season it is for a child of faith! It is comforting to know that life does have purpose and meaning and that we are not alone in these troubling times.

This is my second Christmas letter to you. There have been a lot of changes in our Church since last Christmas. We are probably about two thirds of the way through the renovation program. This phase, dealing with Douglas Hall is just a few days from completion. Then, we shall turn our efforts to the McKee Wing and our Sanctuary. By summer, everything should be completed.

As this is going on, I'm working as hard as I can to lead the spiritual growth and development of Burlington East. This is so encouraging. Numbers don't tell the whole story but they give an indication - during November 2008 over 5 Sunday our average attendance was 170!

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Cont'd.....2:11



I commend to you now our Christmas Services - on Christmas Sunday, December 21st, we worship at 10:30a.m. and on Christmas Eve at 7p.m.

After Worship on December 21st, we shall be serving Christmas Plum Pudding during our Fellowship Hour.

The Christmas Eve Service is a Candlelight Carol Service. I have always found it to be an almost mystical experience as I worship on this holy night. If you have children or grandchildren, please bring them. Help develop that "Christmas memory" that will be so helpful to them in later life.

I have enclosed a Christmas envelope for everyone. I'll use mine Christmas Eve.

The whole country has hit some pretty rough economic waters - in some ways it affects us all. At the start of the year I had great hope that we could handle a very ambitious budget. In the present circumstances, it is probably too ambitious.

Let us just do our best to strengthen our Church to the Glory of God.

Yours in Christ.

Rev. John Cruickshank