

**Dec 29, 2019**

*This Weeks Events*

**Today:**

10:00AM: (Grange)—Christmas dessert social—Dee Coale  
 11:00AM: (Grange)—Message—*Finding Encouragement for Life*—Pastor  
 NOON: (Grange)—Annual Church Business Meeting—Pastor, Treasurer  
 6:00PM: (Grange)—*NO EVENING SERVICE*—Pastor

*Upcoming Events*

**Jan 5, 2019**

2:00PM: (Fir Lane)—Shut In Saints—Matthew Coale

***The Gift of God***



Ron Coale

Christians all too often find themselves under the onslaught of sin. It seems as if it will never end. The closer we get to the return of Jesus, the more intense the attack of sin becomes. How is any Christian expected to survive this? How can anyone live in a world so given over to sinful ways?

storm of sin. You will be safe as long as you stay under His umbrella of protection.

An umbrella can keep you dry if you use it properly. It must be opened to have its greatest effect, and you must be positioned under it. If it is opened but you are not positioned under it, you will get wet. Likewise, if it is closed and you are under it, you will be wet.

Fortunately God is real and true to His word. Like an umbrella is to a strong rain storm, God is to the Christian during the

While under the protection of God, He becomes your hiding place and shield (Psa 119:114). ~



Dear pastor and church family,

December 2019

I cannot begin to tell you how incredibly thankful I am for your love and support during this difficult time with my family. My mother passed away in her home on Saturday, November 30 at 10:30 pm. She was surrounded by loved ones. We sang, prayed and read scripture as well as tell my mother how thankful we were for all the things she has taught us.

I was asked to help mom when I arrived back to Canada after furlough. I'm so thankful my furlough had been completed so I could have the privilege of staying and helping Mom during those trying times. She needed round the clock care. I was trained by the nurses how to administer her medications, which were many. I stayed many a night with Mom at the hospital and had some very precious, alone time with her. While at the hospital we had countless opportunities to witness and pray with others on her floor. She made such an impact! It was truly incredible for me to hear from others how my mom encouraged them and was a source of strength, love, and a fighter to beat her cancer.

My Aunt Karen came and stayed the last two months to help me care for Mom as she needed that extra help. We were a great team. I firmly believe God gave me that opportunity so as not to waste the suffering of my mother. She did suffer. Her cancer had completely taken over her digestive system. She felt hungry because of the steroids to help with inflammation. However, when she ate, she had a bowel blockage and it made her violently ill. One of the things I told my mom is that when she got to heaven the first thing God would do is feed her. She would be able to eat without pain and vomiting, and more importantly, enjoy its flavor.

I covet your prayers because I was right there with my mother when she passed and drew her last breath. At one point, I held her in my arms and many of us thought she might pass right there in my arms. God knew that would be too difficult for me so I laid her back down. She was fully awake and aware of what was happening to her. At one point I had her face in my hands and was rubbing her little fuzz head, attempting to calm her as she gasped for some breaths. I told her she was breathing and to breath deep and slow. At first she said she wasn't okay and was scared. I quoted Psalm 23:1-6 as well as Jeremiah 29:11, *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."* What a comfort to know that our loved ones who have Jesus Christ will end their suffering here. I know I will see my mother again, but I will sure miss her on this earth. We spoke weekly while I was in Russia, so upon my return I think that should be the most trying time for me. At this time, I helped my brothers and sisters get belongings and things organized as many of you know all the details after a loved one has passed. I'll be taking my sister back down into the States where we will comfort my youngest sister who wasn't able to come to Canada for the actual passing of Mom. I plan to be back in Russia by the third week of December.

During my times up here in Canada I continued to stay in contact with my Russian roommate and colleagues and of course the Youngs. I attempted to continue my Russian studies on Duolingo, Whatsapp, etc. My visa is right on schedule to stay going upon my return, and I am excited to get back to the work where God has called me. I also will be bringing back my violin that my father bought me some time ago, which has been repaired and ready to be played. Woohoo! My former teacher, who now lives in Moscow, is ready and willing to help me continue Russian studies upon my return as well. It will be amazing as we will only have a one hour time difference. In Canada, the time difference is 10 hours and very difficult to schedule lessons. I already have students asking about my return and will be able to meet with them and will have more students to add and more folks to whom to witness. The witnessing never ends. I love that God has a work for me to do, and I pray to fulfill God's will in my life totally and completely.

The next letter you receive will be coming from Russia! Praise God!

Love - Sarah

