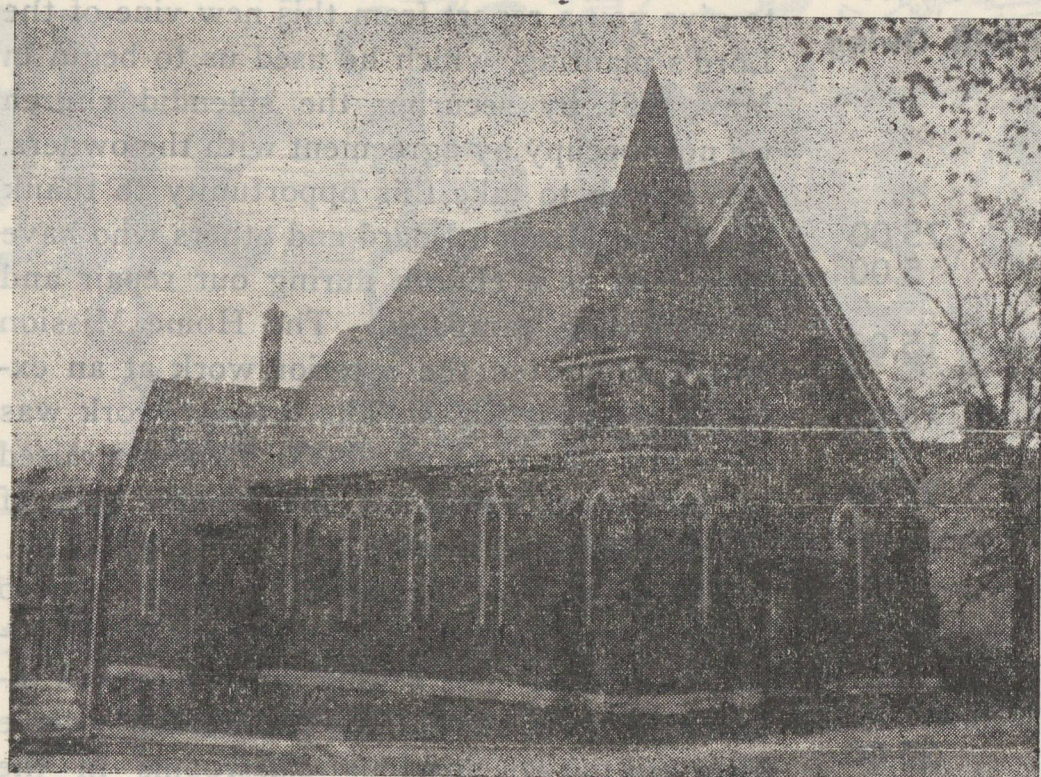


Church and District News

REPORT FROM BARKER'S POINT,
N. B.



The Halifax Church Dedicated

Rev. Ralph Hobson

On Friday, January 16th, a service of dedication was conducted in the new Grace Reformed Baptist Church in Halifax, N. S. There were approximately 200 people in attendance. The service was in charge of the pastor and the church was formally dedicated in a solemn ceremony by Rev. B. C. Cochrane, Superintendent.

Miss Shirley Goddard, well known Halifax soprano soloist, rendered two appropriate selections, "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and "Bless This House." Mr. Deverne Mullen sang "Just for Today," which was dedicated to the people of the new church. Rev. R. H. Nicholson, Chairman of the Home Mission Board, was present and portrayed by drawing the gospel song, "I'd Rather Have Jesus," as Deverne Mullen sang.

A number of visiting ministers and laymen were in attendance. Rev. Edward Morris, Halifax, president of the Canadian Protestant League, read the Scripture portion and led in prayer. Mr. Morris, who for twenty-five years was Rector of St. Matthias Church, from which church our present building was purchased, expressed deep appreciation for the fact that the church building was to be rededicated for the worship of God.

Greetings and expressions of good wishes were brought by Rev. H. S. Mullen, pastor of the Reformed Baptist Church in Truro, N. S.; Pastor L. H. Harvey, of the Reformed Baptist Church in Londonderry, N. S.; Rev. R. T. Benson, pastor of the Reformed Baptist Church, Amherst, N. S.; Rev. Conard Stairs, Dean of Men, Bethany Bible College, Yarmouth, N. S.; Miss Grace Sanders, Amherst, missionary from Africa; Miss Mary Campbell, Stewiacke, missionary from Africa; Rev. Richard Johnston, pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, Truro, N. S.; Mr. C. F. Abbott, representing the Halifax Gideon camp; and Mr. Jack McAllister, Director of Halifax, Youth for Christ.

Telegrams and letters of felicitations received from a number of Reformed Baptist Churches were read during the service.

Following the dedication of the Church, the Superintendent gave a stirring and challenging message to the congregation.

At the conclusion of the service refreshments were served at the parsonage for out of town guests, members of the local group and for those participating in the dedication service. Mrs. Hobson was assisted by the women of the church.

The dedication service was followed by a week of special meetings with Rev. B. C. Cochrane, Rev. R. H. Nicholson and Mr. Deverne Mullen. The services were well attended and much blessing was derived by the people. One soul was saved the final Sunday evening service for which we do praise God.

The Pastor expresses his sincere thanks and deep appreciation to Mr. A. E. McGeorge and Mr. R. L. Schurman, the two members of his committee who so ably assisted in the supervision of the remodelling and renovating of the old building. Both these brethren rendered invaluable and tireless service, being on call almost at any time of the day or night. Mr. Melvin Perry, of Port Maitland, was foreman carpenter and assumed responsibility for the remodelling of the inside of the church building. The outside work was done by the local contractor. Mr. Perry, demonstrating excellent skill and workmanship, coupled with his counsel, and supervision of the other carpenters, brought the auditorium of the church to completion to the satisfaction and admiration of all. Our sincere thanks and appreciation also goes to Mr. Gerald MacKinnon, who we are sure the Lord sent around at the right time. We had planned to do the walls in Donnacona V lap wall board and the ceiling in Donnacona squares. Brother MacKinnon, who is a plasterer by trade, undertook the job of plastering the interior thus giving us a much superior job than what we would have had with the wall board. We would be ungrateful if we did not thank those who gave of their voluntary service. To them we say a hearty "thank you" and the Lord bless you for your labours of love to the Lord.

For the benefit of those who have not seen the building we will endeavour to do our best in giving a description of it. The appearance of the outside of the building you will see for yourself by the picture. The colour of the paint is grey with somewhat of a green shade. The trim is white.

The walls and ceiling on the inside are plastered as has already been stated. There is recessed lighting fixtures in the ceiling with a lens area of 12 inches. The wainscoting is finished in birch plywood. The doors are finished in birch. The windows are gothic in design with sparkle glass and the upper peak in amber sparkle glass. The platform is curved at the front and is entirely covered with a cherry red carpet. The walls of the choir loft

A few words of report from this corner of the vineyard are long overdue but we are praising God for manifestations of His presence and victory.

January 11th we closed a three Sunday campaign with Rev. N. E. Trafton as evangelist and DeVerne Mullen as song evangelist. The ministry of these men was deeply appreciated here and, more important, was blessed and used of God. The memory lingers of victorious altar services when some new names were recorded in glory and a number of the converts of former services experienced the reality of heart purity. The watch night service with a large congregation was unusually blessed of God, making a wonderful climax to the old year and an inspiring introduction to the year 1953.

The first anniversary service of the church was held the afternoon of January 1st with a large audience of visitors and friends to rejoice with us over a year of marked progress. Our Superintendent, Brother Cochrane, brought a fitting and challenging message and we were privileged to have Revs. F. A. Watson, H. E. Mullen, N. E. Trafton and Lics. Neil Rice and Laurence Mullen to assist in the service. How our hearts rejoiced as we could report over \$6,000 paid off on the debt in the first year of the church's existence and a membership of 41—to God be the praise.

The work of each department of the church is encouraging and we feel to thank God for this people and their concern for the work of God. We look forward, under His leading, to further gains in the salvation of needy souls. Pray for this work that it might continue to grow in a manner pleasing to God.

Yours for souls,

H. R. and Mrs. Ingersoll

and platform are finished in birch plywood, and is a work of beauty. The choir loft has two rows of chairs accommodating 18 people. There is a baptistry behind the choir loft, with the arched opening being covered with red drapes to match the carpet. There is a curved arch over the platform matching the baptistry arch in style.

The pulpit was custom made as was the communion table and are made out of American white oak, finished in light tone. The three platform chairs are solid oak, done in light tone and there are three matching communion chairs. Carpet matching that on the platform go up both aisles of the church and across the front and the back. Pews being out of the question for the present, we were able to obtain a folding chair made of birch and done in light finish. At the front of the church on each side of the platform there are attractive hymn boards made out of birch plywood.

We trust that our new church will be one where many in the days and years to come if Jesus tarry, will be able to look back as the place where they found the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour. Your prayers are coveted by pastor and people for the future of the work. Please pray with us for spiritual victories in the salvation of lost souls and the sanctification of believers. Pray too that our present financial obligations may be met.