

NORONTO REUNION COMMUNITY

BY DON ARROWSMITH

Hey! So good to see you!

Great to see you again as well! Wasn't sure you were going to make it this year!

Hi, hello you all! Who's got coffee ready?

They do... bring your own cup.. you make it tomorrow... (laughter)

Sounds of children wanting breakfast rise in the air
Footsteps crunch along the gravel path, morning showers have begun.
The sharp Crack of the dining hall door closing punctuated the early morning.

NORONTO is waking up!

The trek to the chapel begins
Hands are clasped
Arms embrace
Smiles exchanged
Warm greetings are given and received
Seats are taken
Friends are sought
Quiet descends
A small voice of delighted surprise can be heard ... " Granma and Grandpa are over there"..
A familiar tune begins
Voices rise
The Community has gathered in thankfulness and praise.

Reunion is underway

Prayers are offered
Games played
Information given and received
Friendships rekindled
Meals are eaten
Pots and pans are scoured
Classes presented
Perceptions changed
Christ like concern given
Unity and love expand

Rain falls
Air refreshed
Community continues

The laughter of children brings smiles
Old stories are resold
Nor muffins are ready

Prayers, concerns shared
Blessings given and received
Hopes are spoken
Dreams are planted

Melancholy descends
Tents are struck
Cars are packed
Embraces shared in parting

Silence descends

Noronto has drawn to a close!

But.. it is never over
It travels with you
A part of you as you are part of it
Leave refreshed

Even now NORONTO beckons

Come home
Come weary
Come broken
Come searching

Come Home

NORONTO!