



# Waves, Ripples & Hellos

St. Andrew's United Church

Fall 2006

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## Welcome

Fall---as we were told in Elementary School: "Fall is the season when the leaves fall." There are some fair folk who say they love this season, but yours truly becomes like the maple leaves this year – blighted and spotty.

To those of you with concern for your "spotted" maple trees --- Jim Althouse, arborist and speaker at the Green Thumbs, says that this fungus should not harm our trees. After listening to CBC, we learn that this fungus is popularly called "tar spot" (aptly named!) and leaves should be raked up and "gotten rid of". As I look around my yard surrounded by twenty something maples I cannot fathom how, I, even with Bill MacNaughton's help can "get rid of" that many leaves. They did say that mulching and covering the pile would help to prevent these spores from traveling next spring. How difficult to be good stewards of this God-given planet!!

We had better take a cue from the petunias that are becoming "alone and palely loitering" yet are reaching out to the light.

A warm smile, a kind word or childish foolishness can bring the 'light'. Rev. Sharon Moon, the theme speaker at the Ottawa – Montreal Conference said, "This living force that is the Spirit, this aliveness of God cannot be boxed in....."

Editor: Carol

## Autumn Reflections:

I've been reading a marvelous little book that I bought at Onagh Ross' used book store. It's called *Pilgrim Heart: the Inner Journey Home*, by Sarah York. She, like other authors I have been reading lately, speaks about the inner journey and the outer journey.

She shares her insights about both of these journeys from her experience of going on a pilgrimage to Nepal and Thailand. She has an experience of the depths of loneliness while high in the mountains, followed two days later by an experience of joy and connectedness (a 'mountaintop' experience) while walking through a valley.

Our outer and inner journeys don't always match, but they are always intertwined. We tend to pay a lot of attention to our outer journeys, including things like a perpetual "to do list". Our inner journey can become an untended path, overgrown and hard to find. These two journeys, tended or not, are intertwined.

As I sat to write this, my head was spinning from the tasks I had just finished doing, and thinking about the tasks yet to be done.

How, out of this 'brambly brain' would I be able to write something, and what was the message that I had thought I wanted to write? It's in the brambles somewhere.

*[Can you tell I've recently pulled up a lot of blackberry canes from the garden that was untended all summer?]*

And then, I found the thread of the idea, and I was reminded again to let go of the pressure of the outer journey, and centre myself again in a sense of something that is beyond the 'to do list'; something that already is; a peace that passeth understanding... And so, even sitting at my computer, my shoulders dropped from around my ears, my breathing slowed, my mood improved, and a certain peace settled in.

The outer journey is all of the things we DO in life, whether that is taking the children to the hockey arena, or sitting with a loved one as they journey towards death. What matters most, is not the doing, but our state of being.

Are we calm or frantic?

Are we at peace or fearful?

Are we present to the moment?

It helps to have some methods to re-centre ourselves. For me, sitting and reading a book, such as *Pilgrim Heart*, is one way of re-centering myself. Sometimes I just sit looking out of my living room window.

When I regularly do this, my life is calmer, my thinking clearer, and I am more likely to notice graceful moments.

I wonder why, then, it is so easy to drift back to pre-occupation with the outer journey. I guess that's

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part of the human condition. But then, I keep reminding myself, I'm not just a human, but a human BEING.

The invitation is always to come back to the inner journey, to re-center oneself, to find peace ... to find God.

*Andrea*

## Changes in the Church

The contractor's name is Bill Hooper. Neighbours and the noon-hour walkers from the High School have seen Mr. Hooper's truck and work trailer parked beside the church for the last week or ten days. Mr. Hooper is the man who recreated the cornice and corbel after the dramatic effects of a lightning strike. Now he is reconstructing the platform for the chancel area.

The results of initial preparation were likened to an archeological 'dig'.....papers titled "The Teacher's Monthly", dated 1912 were found under the platform along with an assemblage of large heating pipes. Further work showed that the platform (seemingly built in 1912) was formed by building an extension to a smaller, earlier platform. Remnants of wood trim show that the earlier platform could be approached by a single surrounding step.

Mr. Hooper's work will be completed in a week or two. The members of the committee in charge of this work are: Donald McDonald, Bruce Overbury, Shelley MacNaughton, Mac Edwards, and Jay Woollven.

## Statement of Faith

**"Song of Faith"** – A song for all to sing! This statement of faith seeks to provide a verbal picture of what the United Church of Canada understands its faith to be in its current historical, political, social and theological context at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

This is not a statement for all time, but for *our* time. You can read about the "Song of Faith" on the United Church website at [www.unitedchurch.ca](http://www.unitedchurch.ca).

If you wish to read about this, copies of "A Song of Faith" are available at the back of the church.

## Church Services

**October 22: Jim Leland – Minister** Rev. Jim Leland will lead worship in Williamstown and Martintown.

**October 28: Theological Worlds Workshop (10 am – 2 pm)**

Come to The Abbey for the Arts for this workshop to be led by Dr. Bruce Wheatcroft. This workshop will be the foundation for a year-long exploration into worship styles. We have individual learning and communication styles: so too we have individual expectations in worship style!

A gourmet Lunch is \$15. Contact Andrea by October 23 if you would like to go. The workshop itself is being paid for by the McGregor Fund.

**October 29: First Theological World Exploration and Worship: Dr. Wheatcroft**

This first service of exploration into Worship Worlds will be in **Martintown at 10:00 am.**

If transportation is a concern or you are thinking environmentally, phone your Elder representative to arrange.

**November 5: Remembrance Sunday** at regular church time. Rev Harrison will lead worship service.

Last year, we read the list of all who had served in war as a recognition of 2005 - 'The Year of the Veteran'. It seems to this writer that we should continue this practice as well as paying the tribute to the fallen.

The Remembrance Service at the Williamstown Cenotaph, conducted by the Lancaster Legion will be at 11:am, following our regular worship.

**November 12 & 19: Worship led by Rev. Andrea Harrison**

**November 26: Second Theological World Exploration and Worship : Dr. Wheatcroft**

**Editor's Note:** Look for information on Christmas services in our next edition.



## Events in Our Church

**October 24: Committee of Stewards Meeting** in Irvine Hall at 7:00 pm

**October 23 - Pastoral Charge Questionnaire Irvine Hall 7:30 pm:** As discussed at Official Board on Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, we are being asked to complete a Pastoral Charge questionnaire, and to meet with a consultant, hired by Presbytery, as part of a project to evaluate the health, viability and sustainability of pastoral charges within the Seaway Valley Presbytery.

Copies of this questionnaire and the covering letter are available at the back of the church. If you want a copy, please contact Mac Edwards (our Presbytery Rep).

We are asked to develop a "consensus response", so we will need to meet to share our views and develop our response.

Subsequently, we will need to arrange a time to meet with the consultant, Christopher McKelvey.

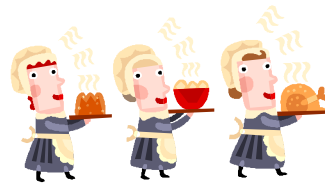
In the meantime, on your own, or with family/neighbours, you may wish to think through, discuss, or record some of your responses to items on the questionnaire. Your participation in this project will be greatly appreciated.

**October 27: Sunday School Night Movie Night.**

A potluck supper and the Wizard of Oz. Everyone is invited and all are welcome to wear a costume.

**November 4: Annual Turkey Supper!! Irvine Hall – 4:30 to “no more turkey”**

The lists are made and the phone calls have started. The many volunteers that make our church supper such a success will be given their important jobs. Come and enjoy this delicious meal with your family and friends.



**November 21: Latest News from Penney Place and Lesotho Irvine Hall: 7:30**

Remember! Linda told us about her friend, Penney who was going to Lesotho to work and lend her expertise in education. Now, Penney has returned and has agreed to share her experience. Come to Irvine Hall on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November to show our continued support.

Penney will be returning to Lesotho in January 2007 for another school term. If anyone would like to contribute to this, ball-point pens (for the high school teachers, who are issued only 2 red pens per year) and cash donations would be gratefully accepted. For further information about 'Help Lesotho' go to [www.helplesotho.ca](http://www.helplesotho.ca)

## Events in Our Community:

**October 20 & 21: Shout for Joy:** This is the theme of a learning event to take place at City View United Church in Nepean.

For transportation on Friday the 20<sup>th</sup>, speak to Carol Edwards; for transportation on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup>, speak to Rev Harrison. Registration is \$25.

Highlights are: a special Communion service on Friday night and Drumming as expression of the Spirit: On Saturday - Thanksgiving as a positive approach to Stewardship and the Gifts of Healing.

**Monday, October 30: Living Faithfully in the Midst of Empire.** An invitation to share in discussion about "Living Faithfully in the Midst of Empire" taking place at Howick United Church, in Howick, Quebec. For info contact Andrea, or Faye Wakeling at (514) 766-2341 or at [fayewk@sympatico.ca](mailto:fayewk@sympatico.ca).

**November 25:- St. Andrew's Ball with the SD&G Highlanders** at the Cornwall Armouries.

You are invited to join with Officers of the SD&G Highlanders' Regiment, as Andrea's guests for a traditional evening of dining and dancing.

Dress: formal – black tie / business suit. Cocktails at 6:00pm, dinner at 7:00pm, and dancing at 9:00pm. Tickets are \$50 each. RSVP to Andrea by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Sunday School:

“Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not turn from it” Proverbs 22:6

Much like a children’s museum, the new rotational model encourages children to “learn by doing” and allows them to learn a Bible story each month using all their senses.

The children are just finishing a rotation on the Creation Story. One Sunday – food was used to teach this story.

First – the kids enjoyed a snack of:

1. Crushed oreo cookies (the Lord separates darkness from light)
2. Frosted Mini-Wheats (the Lord separates the sky from the earth)
3. M&M’s and Pretzels (the Lord created flowers and trees)

Then they created a **Parfait of The World**: Arrange the following in a glass to get a picture from Genesis:

1<sup>st</sup> Day: Chocolate pudding and vanilla pudding (God separated the light from the dark)

2<sup>nd</sup> Day: Blue Jello (Let there be a sky to separate the waters)

3<sup>rd</sup> Day: Green Jello and pretzels (God called the dry ground... grass and plants grew across the earth)

4<sup>th</sup> Day: Yellow & orange M&M’s (God placed the sun in the sky... God created the stars and the moon)

5<sup>th</sup> Day: Gold fish crackers (All kinds of fish shall fill the oceans)

6<sup>th</sup> Day: Animal crackers (the Earth shall be filled with life)

7<sup>th</sup> Day: Marshmallows (God finished his work - day of rest)

I will never forget the day of rest when it appears as pillows of soft marshmallows!

**Editor’s Note:** Cordelia was unable to provide her column for this edition as she is currently “trying to find herself.”

## Support to Wounded Soldiers:

As each day brings news of fatalities in Afghanistan, we are reminded how dear those soldiers are to many in our immediate area. There are SD&G Highlanders deployed in this dangerous arena of operations.

The Official Board of this pastoral charge decided to encourage us to take part in the Wounded Soldier program. We will be asked to donate through a special envelope campaign. The donations will be received at the Remembrance Day Sunday Service (November 5).

Here are some quotations from The Wounded Soldier Program as found on the RCR web-site [http://thercr.ca/hospital\\_packs.htm](http://thercr.ca/hospital_packs.htm)

..... A support program which provides clothing and amenities to wounded soldiers as they are evacuated from Afghanistan to Germany. Each pack contains sweats, t-shirts, under clothing, toiletries etc. When the medical system has removed combat clothing they are wearing, the pack contents become the soldiers immediate level of support until

the means to provide other items at the hospital kicks in. These kits are provided regardless of regimental affiliation. Receipts can be issued by the RCR for donations made by cheque.

## Kirkin’ of the Tartans

The contrast between battles of historic times and modern times was on the minds of many who attended the **Kirkin’ of the Tartans** ceremony with the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders that was held in our St. Andrew’s church on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our minister, Rev Andrea Harrison, and our resident piper, D.J. McDonald were there in the uniform of the SD&G Highlanders. Joan MacDonald, the organist at St. Mary’s, Williamstown, provided the same organist duties for us.

This service came about in conjunction with plans for **Ontario Doors Open**.

We were not on the **Doors Open** list but were included thanks to Joan and the Nor’Westers & Loyalist Museum. The historic regiment, the 78<sup>th</sup> Fraser Highlanders were present as a re enactment group that honours that regiment of Scots who were with General Wolfe on the Plains of Abraham.

It was not too unsettling to think of the role of the Frasers but the thoughts of our soldiers today gave us a *frisson* and a reminder that the padre standing before us could be called upon at a moment’s notice to act in a time of tragedy.

## Congratulations Lois

This time we voiced our good wishes at the Covenanting Service for Rev. Lois Gaudet at Avonmore United Church. Lois is the Member of Ordered Ministry for the Pastoral Charge of Avonmore-Finch. “*Congratulations*” must have its origin in *con* and *gratus* – thus “with gratitude”. That puts a little different twist on glib old congratulations!! Lois was assured of our *gratitude* when she saw the number of people present from our churches.

## Babes & Brides

On August 20 **Emma Caitlin Woollven**, daughter of Jennifer and David Woollven was baptized. Her grandfather, Jay acted as a representative from Session to present his grand daughter for baptism.

Many congratulations were going to the grandparents, Nancy and Jay as they celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

On Thanksgiving Sunday, the children of Nathalie and Shane McDonell were baptized.

**Brianna and Cowan McDonell** were presented for baptism by Chair of Session, Bev Craig.



## Wedding Bells

Oh the wedding bells have been ringing.

July began with a trilingual wedding service at St. Andrew's in Martintown, that of Yoshiko Hachiya and Daniel Collette on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Daniel's French speaking family lives in Williamstown, and Yoshiko's Japanese speaking family live in Japan. Daniel and Yoshiko met in Montreal, where they are currently living.

**Sheila Robinson and Trevor Crites** were married at St. Andrew's in Williamstown on July 21<sup>st</sup>. They live on the Glen Rd., across the road from where Diane Poilly and Frank Murphy used to live. Diane and the boys have now moved into the former home of Alan Sullivan The neighbourliness continues, though, as Sheila and Trevor had their wedding photos taken in Diane and Frank's garden – a conveniently short walk from the church!

**Jennifer MacNaughton and Tony Ruffo** were married a long walk from the church. They tied the knot in Antigua on July 25<sup>th</sup>, and then celebrated with a wedding reception at the Ramada Inn in Cornwall on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Susan Rogers and Brad King** were married on July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Osler Brook Golf & Country Club in Collingwood. The sky looked as though it was going to pour rain, but luckily it held off. The wedding ceremony was conducted by Rev. Paul Boughton, who served this pastoral charge as interim minister in 1995/96.

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, **Trudy Zeran and Chris Watt** were married at St. Andrew's in Williamstown. Trudy and Chris moved to the village two years ago, having bought Jennifer and Ellery Lafave's previous home. Trudy and Chris are in the process of becoming members of this congregation.

September began with the wedding of **Christine Sloan and Jolyn Campbell** on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Andrew's Williamstown. Christine and Jolyn met at Queen's University, where they were both studying theology. Jolyn was ordained last summer, and settled in a three-point pastoral charge in the Huntsville area.

And, there are three weddings booked already for St. Andrew's, Williamstown in 2007.

**Allison Smart and Chris Kroeker** will be getting married on September 1<sup>st</sup>, and **Jennifer Overbury and Jason Robinson** will be getting married on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Allison and Jennifer were two of the 10 girls in Andrea's first Confirmation Class. **Melissa MacCrimmon and Steven Tessier** will also be getting married on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Three other couples have also approached Andrea about doing their weddings in Williamstown next year.

We are waiting for **Kathi Legault** and **Gerry Dobbyn**, who recently announced their engagement, to set a date J .

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## Word Puzzle

The first person to send me the hidden message will receive a prize! We could be charged for false claims – no one has received a prize lately! The prize winners are so gracious ..... they decline the prize! Kudos to last Waves winner da da Karen Paavila, who was first of three to respond correctly.

Cross out every other letter to discover a message from Proverbs. You must decide which letter to start with and where the words begin and end.

**A A B S C O D F E T F A G N H S I W J E K R L T M U N R O**  
**N O S P A Q W R A S Y T W U R V A W T X H Y B Z U Q T**  
**S A R H Z A C R B S B H C W D O V R A D E S F T W I S R**  
**Y S A U D P G A T N H G U E N R**

**From: E P G R I O K V L E F R J B H S**  
**15:1**

