



Waves, Ripples & Hellos

St. Andrew's United Church

Easter 2010

newsletter@standrewsunitied.org

The Editor's Note:

The newsletter is almost ready for publication with no credit due to this person named below as the editor.

Our technical support staff (Susan Edwards) has taken over! She has been at home recuperating after surgery so all my time spent worrying and fretting has paid off.

We are now suffering from Olympic withdrawal and perhaps I will sleep better as I no longer will be reliving our version of speed skating at the Powassan Arena circa 1953. My sister owned one of the two pairs of speed skates in our town and another sister and I 'borrowed' those treasures sometimes.

We are no longer scanning the Olympic crowds for Edwina Billyk, Tina Cairncross or Jay & Nancy Woollven who bravely travelled to Vancouver to participate in the spectacle.

It is March 1st and the sap is running. I hope that sign of life will give all of us renewed energy and rejoice in each day.

Amid some dirty snow beside our door step I see a daffodil rising from the frozen earth. In tribute to its struggle I found a verse from the poet who ignores capital letters and punctuation – e.e. cummings



in time of daffodils

in time of daffodils(who know
the goal of living is to grow)
forgetting why, remember how

Carol Edwards

Editor of *Waves, Ripples & Hellos*

Message from Andrea

The following is Andrea's message from the Annual Report:

I have been a part of this congregation for 13 years. Some of you have been part of this faith community for much longer, and some not as long. I have learned so much, and you have been good teachers. You have also given me space to explore life and faith from a variety of perspectives, and share these with you.

As I look back over my calendar for 2009, I note that my continuing education was focused on my inner journey - try to promote inner growth from a variety of different perspectives. I attended talks given by Eckhart Tolle and Deepak Chopra. I took a series of Reiki courses. I attended a five-day retreat with the Vietnamese Zen Buddhist Monk, Thich Nhat Hahn. I was inspired by all of these, and will continue to draw upon these teachings and practices. I feel renewed to have had this year in which to do that inward inflection.

Now, it is time to look ahead to a new year, a new decade.

I would like to think in terms of the next 10 years as I would like to retire from my role as congregational minister in 2020, and perhaps, at that point, go live and work in the developing world. My first choice, for the next 10 years, would be to continue in congregational ministry with you. If you are willing, and God willing ('Inshallah' as Muslims would say), I would like us to dream about what we can do together over the next 10 years. What are our visions for our church? How can we use our talents, resources, and creative ideas to offer the best ministry possible? How will we continue to sustain our ministry financially? What ideas do we have to continue our journey?

We may be inspired by many different activities. Several of us, from the pastoral charge, attended a "Money and Stuff" workshop toward the end of 2009, which offered some great ideas. Perhaps we would like to embark on a "Celebrate Stewardship" programme this year. I would like to attend a retreat about "God, money, and the Western World" lead by John Bell of Glasgow, Scotland. Perhaps this would give us some more ideas.

A small group from both churches will be attending a "Me First" workshop with Betty Healey of North Lancaster. This will look at personal goals, strengths, and aspirations - enabling individuals,

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and by extension, our church communities. Hopefully, we will also create opportunities as a pastoral charge to do some "asset mapping" and define our mission, vision, and goals.

Our Ministry & Personnel committee will be working with me on preparing for a sabbatical, perhaps for the summer of 2011. This would be a 3-month opportunity for me to engage in learning and retreat opportunities. This would be an opportunity for me to equip myself with skills, insight and energy to help you achieve your goals as congregations.

As we embark on a new year and a new decade, I trust that God will guide us in the paths we should take, and that we will experience God's abundance and grace.

Rev. Andrea Harrison

Worship Services:

March 7: 3rd Sunday of Lent

led by Rev. Andrea Harrison

This is also **Second Chance Sunday**. Participate in Lent in a very practical way by bringing in an item or two that you no longer need, and everyone will be invited to swap and take home something with the intention of giving it new life, making it useful and purposeful again. Use your imagination and creative talents.

March 14: 4th Sunday of Lent

led by Rev. Andrea Harrison

March 21: 5th Sunday of Lent

Led by Lorna McKendry

March 28: Palm Sunday & Communion

Led by Rev. Andrea Harrison

Palm Sunday will also be an intergenerational service. We have a theology that invites anyone to partake in communion - including children (at the discretion of their parents). This service will provide the children with an opportunity to participate in communion.

April 2: Good Friday

Led by Rev. Andrea Harrison

Service to be held at St. Andrew's in Martintown at 10:00 am.

April 4: Easter Sunday

Led by Rev. Andrea Harrison



Lenten Services:

Lenten services are hosted by St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in South Lancaster every Wednesday during Lent. The services begin before noon, with some reflective music played by the guest musician. The service begins at 12:00, followed by soup & sandwiches at 12:30

Here is a list of worship leaders & guest musicians.

- March 10 : Father Jacques Labelle & Dr Gerard Hebert
- March 17: Wilma Scott
- **March 24: Rev Andrea Harrison & Malcolm Cumming**
- March 31: Sheldon Carr

Book Discussion:

Everyone is invited to Irvine Hall on **Friday, March 26 evening** to talk about the book *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortensen.

From his webpage: Greg Mortenson is the co-founder and Executive Director of nonprofit Central Asia Institute. Since a 1993 climb on Pakistan's K2, he has dedicated his life to promote community-based education and literacy programs, especially for girls, in remote mountain regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Mortenson is also founder of Pennies For Peace, co-author of the #1 New York Times best-seller, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School At A Time* www.threecupsoftea.com, which has sold over 3.5 million copies and published in 39 countries. He is the author of the new bestseller *Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, Not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan* www.stonesintoschools.com.

Mortenson is a military veteran, and when not overseas, he lives in Montana, USA, with his two children and wife, Dr. Tara

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Bishop.

Lorna McKendry will share with us stories and pictures of her own unforgettable journey through Northern Pakistan.

Even if you do not have time to read Greg's book, come and enjoy a Friday evening with friends and learning more about Northern Pakistan and the continued struggle for education in that area.

Workshop Planning

We have invited Rev. Garth Mundle to do some work with us this spring. This work will help us identify our assets, define our mission and vision, and set some goals. We will have two or three sessions with him in May/June, and everyone from our two congregations will be invited to participate. We will work in congregational groupings, so each congregation will develop their own ideas. We will be hiring Garth with funds from the McGregor Fund.

Stay tuned for more information.

Locks of Hair

You may have noticed that Lorna McKendry is sporting a new hair style. While this is not normally a topic for our newsletter, Lorna's recent trim deserves recognition. Lorna has been letting her hair grow - not for strength like Samson - but for the purpose of donating her locks to make a wig for a cancer patient.

"Pantene", the shampoo people,

partner with the Canadian Cancer Society and HairUWear to distribute real-hair wigs to women living with cancer. Their web-site, www.pantene.com, gives you all the info you need to know about donating your locks. There are a few requirements, but really, they make it quite easy.

Do you, or someone you know, have long, healthy hair? Would you consider growing your hair for a good cause? For so, Lorna would encourage you to give yourself and your hair that kind of commitment for the next few years, and follow through with it.

Sam Chambré is also growing his curly locks for the same reason. He plans to have his hair cut before starting Grade 7 in September.



Sunday School:

Since Christmas, the children have been studying the story of Esther. The children are going to have a Feast of Purim party on March 7th. I remember making a special cookie named after Haman. However Kieran had to remind me of what Haman's name was. I thought I had better review the Feast of Purim and the Ester story as well. Here is a bit of research

from bible.org.

"Purim is observed on the fourteenth of *Adar*, just a month and a day before Passover; in Jerusalem, Hebron, and the Old City of Safed, the holiday is observed one day later. This odd scheduling is because a statement in the Book of Esther (9:18-19) ordains that Purim be observed one day later in walled cities (Jerusalem was still a walled city at the time Esther was written). Thus, in Israel anyone so inclined can observe Purim twice, on the fourteenth of *Adar* throughout most of the country, and on the fifteenth in Jerusalem, Hebron, and the Old City of Safed.

Women as well as men are commanded to hear the public reading of the biblical scroll of Esther. The reading is conducted in the synagogue amid much revelry. Almost all children, and some adults, come to the service with *groggers* (noisemakers), which they sound whenever Haman's name is read. Since Haman is mentioned more than fifty times in Esther, the reading is constantly interrupted by shouts, screams, boos, and the rattling of *groggers*. Because Jewish law requires people to hear every word of the scroll of Esther, the person chanting the book is forbidden to resume until the noise abates.

While Jews normally come to synagogue in suits and dresses, their attire on the playful holiday of Purim is more likely to be costumes and masks.

The synagogue service is usually followed by a party where the command to get drunk is carried out. (*Mary will not include this*

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part in our festivities on Sunday!)

Very often, members of the congregation perform skits based on the Purim story.

A commandment associated with the holiday is to enjoy a large, festive repast known as the Purim *se'udah* (meal). The dessert normally served at this meal, and eaten throughout the whole holiday, is *hamantashen*, small cakes of baked dough filled with prunes, apricot, poppy seed, or other filling. (*I am going to attempt to make some hamantashen for Sunday's celebrations.*)"

In addition to the Feast of Purim, Mary had the children make noisemakers and masks and they performed a skit of the story (Cody was a great sport playing Ester).



The next rotation is about the story of Palm Sunday. The children have already painted some stones to represent the "stones that also shouted out" as Jesus came into Jerusalem. The children will practice a short skit that they will present during the intergenerational service on Palm Sunday.

Note: Mary will be getting married this summer and expects to be moving out of our area. We will be once again seeking someone to work with our children. If you are interested or what to know more, please talk with Andrea or Susan Edwards.

Free the Children: Children helping Children through Education

News from the Char- Lan Chapter

On Sunday, February 21, a group of Char-Lan students talked about the Free The Children organization and their involvement. The students were very excited about their work with Free the Children.

After church, the students invited the congregation to Irvine Hall for coffee & tea and more informal conversation on Free the Children. They had prepared an overview of the work that the Char-Lan chapter has accomplished over the last 10 years. Here is that list.

2000 - Char-Lan Free the Children chapter was started

2001 - 67 emergency relief kids were sent to Afgani children at the refugee camp at Termex, Uzbekistan. Each emergency kit consisted on a health kid, a medical kid, and a blanket.

2002 - \$6500 was used to build the Princess Pacha School in the Chimborazo region of Ecuador.

2006 - \$6500 was raised to build a school in the Kena District in Sierra Leone.

2007 - \$5000 was used to build a clean water well in Sri Lanka

2008 - \$59000 was raised for "adopt a village" in Sri Lanka. Access to education, alternative income, health care, and clean water has been provided to Palangathuria, Sri Lanka. \$3000

was donated to provide medical supplies in Malawi. Through a special matching program, a \$1 donation purchased \$10 worth of medical supplies for community health clinics.

2009/10 - plan are to build a school in Kenya (\$8500) and to raise funds for medical supplies for other developing countries.

Thanks to Hannah Pearson (Chair), Hannah Pearson, Cali MacCulloch, Kerri Ann MacNaughton, Julie Lamarche, Bevan Lafave, & Sam Chambré for sharing their stories and to Lynn Larkin for her dedication to this program over the last 10 years. St. Andrew's has enjoyed this very successful partnership with the Char-Lan Free the Children chapter.

Note: Sam is part of the Free the Children chapter. By having a member who is below Grade 8 enabled the chapter to apply for a matching grant from a Free the Children sponsor for the Adopt a Village program. Sam's initiative to raise money to build wells in Sudan certainly makes him a great addition to the Chapter.

Pancake Supper Report

On Tuesday, February 16, many filled their bellies with delicious pancakes, ham, fruit & maple syrup. The large crew of volunteers (including some Char-Lan students from the Free the Children chapter) enjoyed another successful pancake dinner.

This year, the funds raised (\$900) are being donated to Rideau Hill Camp. We hope to encourage anyone with young children to consider this camp this summer. It

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is a great experience. **There are church funds available to help kids get to camp.**

For more information on Rideau Hill Camp - see their website: www.rideauhillcamp.com.

"A short description for their website: Since 1948 Rideau Hill Camp has offered a fun-filled camping experience in a Christian-based environment.

A volunteer Camp Council administers Rideau Hill Camp. The property is in trust to the Seaway Valley Presbytery of the United Church of Canada.

Campers from all denominations are welcome to attend. Although there is a Chaplain on the premises, there are no church services held during camp. Vespers and Discovery Time, are the standard.

Our camp is located at 3560 Rideau River Rd. RR 5, Kemptville, Ontario. The 18-acre site includes wooded areas with trails, grassy fields and river frontage.

The purpose of Rideau Hill Camp is character enrichment through living, sharing, and developing within a Christian based environment. Our carefully chosen staff includes registered nurses, chaplains, a canoe instructor, qualified lifeguards, and a cook."



Use of Sanctuary

Over the last number of years, the Session has received a number of requests to use the sanctuary for uses other than worship service. We have enjoyed a number of concerts including:

- Music Recital with guest Therese Motard (fund-raiser for music scholarships for students in the area)
- Fund-raiser for Tara McDonald (outreach work in Botswana)
- Bruce & Cheryl Harding
- Waterloo Regional Police Chorus (proceeds to the Chorus & the OPP Foundation)
- Adirondack Harmony Company

Each time the Session receives a request to use the sanctuary for a purpose other than worship, Session meet to review the request and approve the use of the sanctuary. In January, the Session spent time discussing how these requests should be addressed.

A discussion on the use of the sanctuary focused on a number of areas:

- Our Church - a sacred space for worship services and/or a building in the community that has great acoustics and ample seating for concerts or other events.

There was agreement that the church should be available for other events, provided the events are appropriate, purposeful, and respectful.

The Session also looked at the following types of uses for the "building:"

- use for fund-raising event for charitable cause or outreach
- use for fund-raising event for benefit of persons
- entertainment event.

There was agreement that it is appropriate to use the sanctuary for events that raise funds for charity or as outreach. However, the events must be appropriate, respectful, and purposeful - in the sacred space of the sanctuary. Session members were less comfortable with events that resulted in individuals hosting the event making money.

Each request will need to continue to be brought to the Session for consideration. The Session will consider the following as part of the decision making process for requests:

- Benefit/purpose of the request (is it appropriate/purposeful)
- Content appropriate (is it respectful/appropriate).

Cost to use the sanctuary is determined by the Stewards. Current policy is to recover costs for use of the sanctuary. Costs to use the sanctuary varies from \$200 to \$400, depending on whether or not heating is required. There could be additional costs for the Minister, organist or caretaker (if appropriate).

Fees may be waived for active members or adherents of the congregation or their families. One example would be if an event is for the purpose is fundraising or

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beneficial to the congregation or community.

If you have any comments or questions, please talk to any member of Session.

Notes From The Annual Meeting

The 222nd Annual Congregational Meeting was held February 8 after a pot luck supper in Irvine Hall.

A small number of members chose to share supper but the usual number attended the business part of the evening. (Perhaps there were many like this writer who had nothing prepared to share!)

It was decided that the scheduled time for the Annual Meeting would reverse to the former practice when the AGM took place on a Sunday afternoon. Plan to bring your lunch, not your supper.

A full report of the meeting will be published and distributed soon so I will attempt to outline only the various committees and the names of those who have agreed to serve.

If you have never offered or been asked to contribute to the work of the church, you can take comfort in knowing that you don't have to work in that capacity forever. There is a policy whereby each position has a designated term or time limit.

Church Officers for 2010

Session: Thelma Dupuis, Sandra French, Pat Larkin, Jay Woollven, Shelley MacNaughton, Susan Edwards, Bruce Overbury, Jon Oxley, Alan Rose, Jocelyn

Overbury, Donald J. McDonald, Rev. Andrea Harrison

Committee of Stewards: Kerry McKay, Yvette MacNaughton, Innis Jenkins, Pat Larkin, Donald J. McDonald, Ian Cumming, Iris Swerdfeger, Jennifer Lafave, James Dennis, Sandra French, Rob Moncrieff

Trustees: Jay Woollven, Tony Durin, Bill MacNaughton, Cathy McKay, Lynn Lafave, Robert McDonell, Mike Seguin

Cemetery Committee: same as above

Young People's Ministry: Cathy McKay, Susan Edwards, Edwina Billyk, Jennifer Lafave, Rev. Andrea Harrison

Ministry and Personnel Committee: Donald J. McDonald, Shelley MacNaughton, Jon Oxley, Carol Edwards

Social Committee: Joyce Lewis, Sandra French, Shelley MacNaughton, Bev Craig, Nancy Woollven, Trudy Watt

Outreach: Edna MacDougall, Jim Lewis, Joyce Lewis, Rita Buttle, Lorna McKendry

Waves, Ripples, and Hellos: Carol Edwards, Susan Edwards, Lorna McKendry, Nancy Woolven

Archives: Ralph Gordon, Kathi LeGault, Iris Swerdfeger

Presbytery Representative: Lorna Grant

Flowers in Sanctuary: Carol Edwards, Bev Craig

Pastoral Care Committee: Karen Paavila, Lorna McKendry, Rollande MacCrimmon, Neil MacCrimmon, Liz Clark, Bev

Craig, Rev. Andrea Harrison, Mac Edwards (recordings secretary) Linda McDonell (card secretary)

Char-Lan Food Grains: Robert McDonell, Mac Edwards, Martin Lang

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team invites **anyone** to contact them if they feel they or someone they know who would benefit from the services provided by the team. Karen Paavila can be reached at home at 613 525 1399 or paavila@persona.ca.

Recordings of each church service are available for those who were not able to attend. Bruce Overbury (our dedicated sound & recording artist) has built a "mail box" on the vestry door to hold newly "minted" discs. Drop by and pick one up or contact Karen to have one delivered to you. The Pastoral Care team has equipment that can be borrowed to play the discs.

Cards for Anyone?

A reminder to folks- if they know of someone who needs a card for any reason- illness, birth, marriage, death, special birthday, thinking of you -you can think of more, Linda McDonell is waiting to be contacted at 613 347 2628 or lgmcd8@hotmail.com.

A graphic with the words "Happy Easter" in a stylized, colorful font. The letters are multi-colored with a gradient from purple to yellow, and have a 3D effect with shadows.