



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church  
Niagara-on-the-Lake

# The Herald

August - 2009



## Inside

- Minister's induction.....2
- Upcoming.....3
- Queen Anne's lace.....4
- Manse open house.....5
- Jacoba's door.....7
- WMS.....8
- Ceilidh for Craig.....9
- More on the manse.....11
- Financial update.....11
- Elliott's 60th anniversary.....12
- Triptych in Burlington.....13
- Women's Fellowship.....15
- In a pickle.....16
- Congregational picnic.....17
- Newark Neighbours.....19
- Presbyterians Sharing.....19
- Guess who?.....20
- Fierce golfing competition....20
- Accepting Christ.....21
- Cheeky cherub.....21
- Putting the 'straw' in  
Strawberry Festival.....22
- Members and adherents  
working in the community...26
- In memory.....28

## "I feel I am finally home"

By Rev. Barb McGale

As I write this message, week number seven of ministry at St. Andrew's is just beginning. I thought I would take this opportunity to reflect on the last six weeks.

Evidently, you do not believe in gently easing your new minister into the position. After two funerals in the first two weeks, I wasn't sure what to expect from this congregation. However, I have been greeted with such warmth and genuine care that all concerns have been quickly laid to rest.

I see before me a congregation with a rich and proud history—a foundation that will provide strength and stability as we move into the future. And what does that future hold? Only God knows, so we must be sure to follow Him.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of you personally. It is my hope that we will work together to build this spiritual house, this ministry of Jesus Christ. There will be challenges ahead, as we let the Lord lead us in new directions. We all have a part to play in this



ministry, and I trust we will undertake our role with a willing spirit and joy in our hearts.

I would like to tell you what a tremendous Session leads this congregation. While it is true that we have had only one meeting over these six weeks, I came away from that meeting so impressed by the quality of these ruling elders. Questions were asked, discussion was had, and the Lord was consulted before any decision was made. To the elders I say, "Well done! I am greatly anticipating what is to come."

*(Cont'd on page 2)*

---

## Finally home *(Cont'd from page 1)*

I wish you could experience for yourselves what it is like to be received by you as your minister, to be welcomed into your midst. It is very humbling, not because you are Niagara-on-the-Lake, but because, as a congregation, you are such a blessing. I can appreciate what it must have been like for the Israelites as they crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land. After years of wandering, I feel I am finally home!

---

*Rev. Barb McGale, in front of the window at right, 'looks up to' Rev. Bernie McGale, who, as current Moderator of Presbytery, inducted Barb as minister of St. Andrew's Niagara-on-the-Lake during a service on July 5. Below, Rev. Dr. Bob Wright, rector of St. Mark's Anglican, left, and Rev. David Pritchard, minister of Grace United, welcome Barb to Niagara-on-the-Lake following the induction.*

---



---

# Upcoming

**Saturday, Aug. 29**

**Free community barbecue**

Connect with the community and introduce our new minister. Church grounds, noon to 2 p.m. Everyone welcome. Bring a friend.

**Sunday, Sept. 6**

Four members of the WMS Niagara Presbyterial Executive will be guests at Sunday service.

**Monday, Sept. 7**

Labour Day

**Tuesday, Sept. 8**

**Tri-M meetings resume**

7 p.m. for 7:30 p.m., Kirk Hall  
Guest speaker: Rev. Barb McGale (Tri-M meetings, second Tuesday of every month)

**Wednesday, Sept. 9**

**Women's Fellowship meetings resume**

Kirk Hall, 1 p.m.  
Outing to the Niagara Historical Society Museum (Women's Fellowship meetings, second Wednesday of every month)

**Thursday, Sept. 10**

**Choir practice resumes**

New members always welcome (Practices every Thursday at 7 p.m.)

**Sunday, Sept. 13**

**Rally Sunday**

**Sunday school classes resume**

**Bible study resumes**, Kirk Hall, 9:30 a.m. Other bible study classes will begin in the fall.

**Tuesday, Sept. 15**

**Board of Managers meeting**

6:30, Kirk Hall



---

*The Women's Fellowship group will go on an outing to the Niagara Historical Society Museum on Sept. 9.*

---

**Joint Board of Managers/Session meeting**

7:15 p.m., Kirk Hall  
Session meeting follows joint meeting.  
(Session meetings, normally first Tuesday of every month; Board of Managers meetings, third Tuesday of every month)

**Saturday, Sept. 19**

**Niagara Foundation House Tour**

Tour will showcase six unique homes of architectural and historical significance, including the manse  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Soup and sandwich lunch**

Provided by Women's Fellowship  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Kirk Hall

**Sunday, Sept. 20**

**Anniversary service: 215<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Andrew's**

**Sunday, Sept. 27**

**Presbyterians Sharing Sunday**

**Saturday, Oct. 3**

**Newark Neighbours collection**

10 a.m. to noon, Kirk Hall

**Sunday, Oct. 4**

**World Communion Sunday**

**Newark Neighbours collection**

Before and after service, Kirk Hall

**Sunday, Oct. 11**

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

**Monday, Oct. 12**

**Thanksgiving Day**

**Tuesday, Oct. 13**

**Tri-M meeting**

Kirk Hall, 7 p.m. for 7:30 p.m.  
Guest speaker: Barb Nattress on "cooking in small quantities"

**Tuesday, Oct. 13 and Wednesday, Oct. 14**

**Crieff Retreat**, Crieff Hills

Organized by Niagara WMS Presbyterial, but not restricted to WMS members

Speaker: Rev. Barb McGale

*(Cont'd on page 4)*

---

## Upcoming *(Cont'd from page 3)*

**Sunday, Oct. 25**

### **Reformation Sunday**

Celebration of the 500th anniversary of John Calvin

**Sunday, Nov. 1**

### **WMS Service**

Guest speaker: Wilma Welch, former Moderator of the Church and former treasurer of WMS Council

**Sunday, Nov. 8**

### **Remembrance Day service**

**Wednesday, Nov. 11**

### **Remembrance Day**

**Sunday, Nov. 22**

### **Reign of Christ/Christ the King Sunday**

**Monday, Nov. 23**

### **Bangers and Mash dinner**

6 p.m., Kirk Hall

**Sunday, Nov. 29**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

### **World Aids Sunday**



**Monday, Nov. 30**

### **St. Andrew's Day**

**Saturday, Dec. 5**

### **A new 'take' on our annual Festive Fare, Kirk Hall**

(Watch for more news in the next issue.)

**Sunday, Dec. 6**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

### **Advent and Christmas Concert**

(tentative) 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday, Dec. 20**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Thursday, Dec. 24**

### **Christmas Eve service**

**Friday, Dec. 25**

### **Christmas Day**

## Queen Anne's lace

*By Margaret McQueen*

Queen Anne's Lace  
Borders the dusty road  
Spilling over into fallow fields.  
Their graceful starry heads  
Heavy with blossom  
Sojourners of summer.

My feet stir with urgency  
To run among the terrestrial bloom  
And illuminate their brilliance,  
Reflections of the night sky  
Becomes a myriad of miracles  
Swaying on slender stems.

---

*Margaret says, "We have such an abundance of Queen Anne's Lace this summer, bowing and waving to us from every nook and cranny. When I first saw their structure through a magnifying glass, I was awestruck. They have been part of my soul ever since. As William Blake wrote, "To see a world in a grain of sand and a Heaven in a wild flower." My heart thanks him for his beautiful words. We must not abuse this earth—it is sacred ground."*

---



---

# Open house at the manse July 4



*Clockwise, from top right, Barb and Bernie chat with Pat Caldwell and Mariette MacKenzie; Barb greets Annie Findlay; Elaine Landray, Donna Pearce, Beth Alma and granddaughter, Catie; Bob and Ann Crooks with John Kurtz, centre; and Robert Cleary and Fiona Macleod.*

*(Cont'd on page 6)*

---

# Manse open house *(Cont'd from page 5)*



---

At left, the "SASSys", from Knox Presbyterian in Welland, were responsible for the goodies at the manse open house. They are, from left, Barb Tenyenhuis, Shirley Brown, Anne Hammond and Janet Francis. Below, left, Susan and George Howse; below right, Rev. McGale's mom, Mildred Jackson, pours tea for Helen Dawson.

---



---

# Jacoba's door

By Jeanetta Hoekstra

Last fall our granddaughter, Jacoba, was invited by Jean Cochrane to plant daffodils in the Garden of Hope in Queenston. Every year the cancer society plants a garden of hope in the area in memory of people who have died of cancer and to give hope to those affected by this terrible disease.

Jacoba, who had lost her mother Marisa the previous year when Jacoba was only three years old, was thrilled at this honour. She took her task very seriously and planted at least 100 daffodil bulbs to the great delight of all who witnessed this beautiful little blond girl fly back and forth to plant as many flowers as she could.

In the spring of this year she was asked to help, along with several others, to cut the ribbon to officially open the garden. This time she was really aware of the solemnity of the task, and she performed it with great poise and dignity.

A few weeks later I was invited by Jean to a ladies' tea, sponsored by the cancer society. It was a very special afternoon with good food, tea, pastries, fellowship and many door prizes.

The grand door prize was a door, painted and donated by a local artist. When I saw that door I was hoping that I held the winning ticket. The door depicted a little girl in jeans and sneakers, a pink ribbon hanging from her back pocket, surrounded by daffodils



and butterflies. It was perfect and I wanted that door, but alas somebody else won it.

A few days later at the Strawberry Festival Barbara Nattress introduced me to Maureen Dalglish, who had won the door prize at the tea. I took the courage to ask her if she would sell me the door and related the story about Jacoba and the daffodil garden. She did not hesitate for one moment and with tears in her eyes said, "The door is for your granddaughter; it is hers".

Gerzinus and I picked it up the next

day and showed it to Jacoba, who jumped up and down with delight, touching all the different butterflies and daffodils. We were all thrilled to see how happy she was.

Our son, Mendelt, who is building a house next door to our home, is going to put the door in Jacoba's room as a reminder of these special events and of the kindness of a wonderful woman who Jacoba does not even know (yet).

We've asked Maureen to come see the door when the house is built. Jacoba cannot wait to meet her.

---

# St. Andrew's Women's Missionary Society

By Helen McLeish

Emil Brunner, a noted author, has written "Mission work does not arise from any arrogance in the Christian Church; mission is its cause and its life. The Church exists by mission, just as a fire exists by burning. When there is no mission, there is no Church, and where there is neither Church nor mission, there is no faith."

Our new minister, Rev. Barb McGale, has experience with mission groups in previous congregations and is interested in working with our members to rebuild St. Andrew's WMS and enjoy our mission outlook.

We aren't talking about a huge group—eight to 12 would be excellent.

This fall, with Session agreement, Barb has scheduled at least two services that involve mission, and we'll see where we go from there. On Sept. 6, four members of the WMS Niagara Presbyterial Executive will speak briefly at the church service about their work with the WMS and their devotion to its purpose. On Nov. 1, Wilma Welch, a former moderator of the church who has served the church in Taiwan and in administrative positions in Toronto, will be the speaker. She has just finished a term as treasurer of the WMS Council. Wilma is always well informed about what is going on in the Church today, and it will be an interesting service.

A vision prepared by the Church Missionary Society of Britain in the

book *Being in Mission* says, "We have a vision of a growing company everywhere of those who acknowledge and obey Jesus Christ as Lord.

We have a vision of Christians willing to go for Jesus.

We have a vision of Christians sharing their faith by word and deed.

We have a vision of churches alive for Jesus.

We have a vision of a world-wide network of small groups of Christian activists.

We have a vision of a flow of Christians all over the world.

We have a vision of the Kingdom of God coming now in the hearts of men and women, and one day throughout the earth when Jesus shall reign."

All we need now is the means of fulfilling these dreams. Please join us as we grow.



*Glad Tidings is the name of the Women's Missionary Society magazine.*

*Glad Tidings challenges concerned Christians to reflect on their faith through articles and reports related to mission and social justice issues, locally, nationally and internationally.*

*If you are interested in subscribing to this magazine, talk to Helen McLeish. The cost is \$14 for six issues in 2010.*

---

## A *ceilidh* for Craig

In memory of Craig Whitehouse, who died last year tragically while diving, Debbie Whitehouse hosted a traditional Scottish *ceilidh* on July 13 at the church hall—an evening of food, song and repartee. The “more than stone soup” pig roast was a gathering supporting St. Andrew’s and Big Brothers/Big Sisters, an organization that Craig was involved with for years.

The church hall overflowed with family and friends. And anyone who attended can attest to the poignancy, as well as the camaraderie and fun, of the evening. It was a fitting tribute to Craig, known for his zest for life. Big Brothers/Big Sisters received donations of \$2,300 and our church received donations of \$920 from the event.

Many who attended had never been to a *ceilidh*, but enjoyed its spontaneity. Should another *ceilidh* ever take place in the hall, many will come better prepared to add to the merriment.

As entertainment co-ordinator, Jean Cochrane kept the entertainment flowing with her poems and readings. There was also some wonderful singing from the WomEnchant chorus (dedicated to celebrating women’s lives and committed to making positive changes in the world) and the quartet Debbie regularly sings with called Joyful Noise.

On the poignant side were words from Debbie herself; Craig’s sister Zena, who recalled Craig as “the most wonderful man in the world”; and one of Craig’s many ‘little

brothers’, Chris, whom Craig came to know through Big Brothers. “If tears could build a stairway and memories a lane, I’d walk right up to Heaven and bring you back again,” said Chris. “I don’t really know where I’d be right now, if it hadn’t been for Craig. All I can do is try and be as good as he was.”

Another fitting tribute was the Thanksgiving address “*Ganyohn’ hon yohn*” given by Keith, a friend of Debbie’s. The prayer, taught in all Six Nations schools, thanks the people of generations past, Mother Earth, the waters, fish, plants, animals, birds, winds, grandfather Thunder Beings, brother the Sun, grandmother the Moon, the stars, the Wise Ones and finally the Creator who has given us all of these things. “We bring our minds together as one to offer thanks to the Creator for all he does. Now our minds are One.”



Debbie and her family thank all of those who supported, worked and participated in the memorial. They also thank those who understood when they were unable to get tickets for the event because the hall was already filled to more than capacity.



*"Joyful Noise", including tenor Paul Wachs, alto Gloria Meyer, Debbie (soprano) and bass Howard Bogusat, performs at the ceilidh.*

---

# Ceilidh for Craig *(Cont'd from page 7)*



# Financial update

By Ron Ferguson

I congratulate the congregation for not allowing the absence of a full-time minister to translate into a reduction of offerings. As a result we've been able to complete significant improvements to the manse from the general operating account. Unfortunately this cannot continue, and it will be necessary to use some of our investments to pay for any final construction and landscaping costs.

This leads us into the need to consider other capital expenditure requirements. It is expected that in the not too distant future we'll incur significant costs to repair the sanctuary roof, windows and repaint the steeple. The congregation needs to be prepared to discuss and determine ways and means by which these costs will be financed.

To keep you informed, monthly financial statements will continue to be posted on the bulletin board in the Kirk Hall—a summary statement reporting the current year's



*It's expected we'll incur significant costs to repaint the steeple and repair the sanctuary roof and windows.*

receipts and expenditures with regard to the annual operating and *Presbyterians Sharing* budgets, and a detailed statement comparing the current year's receipts and expenditures with last year's. I invite you to keep yourself informed as to our finances and seek answers to any questions you might have.

## Manse

By Ken Willms

Don Dawson and his crew (Dawland Farms and Landscaping) are doing the landscaping around the manse. Relocating the driveway, grading around the building, new topsoil for perimeter planting beds, a stone patio behind the house and an automatic sprinkler system have been completed. Sodding and planting of shrubs is expected to be finished this week (weather permitting).

Don has also agreed to build the new side-entry porch.

We will not proceed with rebuilding the garage this year, but will revisit that plan in the future.

Rob Bradley of Creek Road Paints has repainted the front entry deck of the church and woodwork in the furnace room behind the church.



---

## Elliotts celebrate their 60th anniversary



*John and Joan Elliott celebrated their 60th anniversary June 25. Among friends attending the anniversary reception were Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs and wife, Betsy. Family attending included greatgranddaughter Tessa, far left, (daughter of Molly and Nick Hopkirk of Hamilton and granddaughter of John and Joan's son Digby), and daughter Jenny, who kept the punch flowing.*

---

---

# Artist uses God's gift to give to others

By Debbie Eke

This summer I marvel at how well my zucchinis are growing—the result of late heat and *lots* of rain! What first seemed to be a 'garden doomed' has turned into a 'garden bloomed', and I have already made 28 jars of my zucchini/corn relish. At last count there were seven plants boasting six over-sized zucchinis calling "pick me" and 12 tomato plants smothered in nearly ripe tomatoes. Along with this 'planting', two huge rhubarb plants bulging with over-ripe stems, were hidden at the back under the shadow of a magnificent 'golden showers' climbing rose and chives, chives and more chives looking more like a mustache in need of trimming—all of this in a raised bed (no larger than 8'x 8'), which my darling husband dug for me in late June.

Wanting to show David that my gardening ability was not limited to flowers, I didn't listen to his cautionary words of "too many zucchinis" (seven), "those tomatoes need staking", and "do you really need a climbing rose among the veggies?" Needless to say – I have learned a lot in my little garden and next year, God willing, things will go "according to plan".

Finally, late August has arrived and as I look at my little 'plot' I am amazed at how much it has produced. One little garden can give so much, and it is how it is 'planned' that makes all the difference. Life itself is all part of His plan and what a perfect plan!



I have long believed that everything works according to God's plan and I marvel at how even the most simple 'signs' are there if we are open to them. On Wednesday this week I decided to empty out my over-bulging wallet. Bulging not because of money but because of the Zehr's receipts, Colgate coupons, band aids (just in case), buttons (for the jar) and business cards...lots of cards! I quickly read, tossed and sorted card after card until I came across the 'Free Lunch' card offered at Honey West in Burlington. I reflected on what a perfect day that had been, the trip to Knox Burlington. How blessed I was to be a part of that day, how blessed our Women's Fellowship group is to love one another. Eventually the wallet was sorted, put away and I thought finished, but unbeknown to me the 'seed' had been planted and I would be called to tend a garden once again.

On opening my e-mails the following day I smiled to read one from Marsha Scott asking me to write a report on the Women's Fellowship visit to Knox, Burlington. I knew then that cleaning out my wallet was part of His plan to guide me, and to help me write this report. I do so with joy in my heart knowing that it will be read by many and in doing so, it will serve His purpose.

## Off to Burlington

Sixteen smiling members of Women's Fellowship gathered on a sunny Wednesday, June 10, morning to share a day of fellowship at our last meeting before the summer. We had been invited to view a triptych at Knox Presbyterian Church in Burlington and we were all eager to see just exactly what a 'triptych' is. My research had indicated that a triptych is "art consisting of a painting or carving

*(Cont'd on page 14)*

---

## Using God's gifts *(Cont'd from page 13)*

especially an altarpiece on three panels, usually hinged together, depicting the life of Christ". I could only imagine what this would look like and was not completely prepared for what awaited us. The trip to Knox, a place of worship for more than 150 years, seemed to take about 15 minutes (at least in my car). Chatter ensued and time literally 'flew'.

We were greeted at the church by members of the WMS who led us to the fellowship room for tea, treats and smiles. How welcome we all felt! After a short business meeting we were introduced to the artist who had painted the triptych—Patricia Kirby of Ottawa (back row, far left, in page 13 photo.) What a beautiful woman! I was moved by her genuine humble nature and her continual smile.

Patricia thanked us for coming and hoped that we would enjoy our visit and then explained her involvement in the community, the church and her deep, life-long love of the Lord. Patricia is a wife, mother and grandmother. She feels blessed in so many ways. A cancer survivor for more than 10 years, she has been granted experimental treatments and drugs and is in remission. She loves life. She loves people. The mission of Knox Church is "to create a life-renewing community of faith which meets the needs of a diverse and growing people through celebration in worship and compassion in service". Patricia lives the mission!

As we were led through the Sunday school and nursery rooms on our way to the sanctuary, Patricia explained her many murals on the walls and her various mediums for painting. She excels in watercolour and acrylic and has been The Burlington Artist of the Year. With her constant smile and gentle speech, she answered all of our questions.

Finally we were in the sanctuary, face to face with the Life of Christ triptych. To say it was wonderful or beautiful or lovely would be like comparing Niagara Falls to 'lots of water'. As we studied this 20' x 30' picture we recognized precious moments in the life of Christ, from the foretelling of His birth to His death upon the cross. Patricia encouraged us to look at His eyes and they seemed to follow us, regardless of where we walked. The triptych was moving. Patricia emphasized her love for God and her involvement at Knox Church for over 50 years, having been away with her family for only a few years as a child. She said that while painting the triptych she was constantly thinking of her church 'family'—those she had loved and lost over the years, and she had painted their initials in the bulrushes surrounding Moses as a baby. Thinking of others she had included them in her painting too. Interestingly enough Patricia neglected to initial her own work.

Patricia said that her greatest joy in painting was sharing the gift that



*Spirit Tree 6 triptych, an example of Patricia's diverse painting style.*

God has given her by giving back to others. Helping others to learn to paint in schools, old folks' homes

*Cont'd on page 15)*

---

# A trip to the museum

By Barb Nattress

After a delightful summer break, the Women's Fellowship will resume regular meetings on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 1 p.m. in the Kirk Hall. We always welcome new members to our group.

Our meetings are the second Wednesday of the month and our agenda is always quite varied. We are involved in many activities of the church and the community, which do seem to involve food.

We include a short Bible study in our meeting and of course a period of fellowship with members. For

more information about our meetings, please contact me at 289-868-9063 or Anne Bittersohl at 289-479-5121.

During our September meeting, following a short business meeting, we will go to the Niagara Historical Society Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake to view the current display "Women in Niagara". Refreshments will follow.

We invite women of the church to join us on Sept. 9 for this special meeting.



## God's gift *(Cont'd from page 14)*

and Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital gave her much joy, and the look on their faces at mastering the skill was a great reward.

We listened, we marveled and we were in awe. Patricia spoke a little more about herself and mentioned where she had studied painting and various artists she knew. She then surprised us by saying that she had the opportunity to study under Robert Bateman. I reflected on this and thought that the triptych, in no way, showed any of the style of Robert Bateman. Little did I know.

Patricia asked if we would be interested in seeing a gallery in the church with a 'few' more of her paintings. A unanimous "yes" led us all to follow her to a room filled

with paintings equal to the talent of Robert Bateman! Patricia has the ability to capture the very essence of living birds, lynx, fish, wolves, squirrels, raccoons, you name it. Her countryside paintings were so real that Barbara Nattress told Patricia she knew exactly where the road in one of her paintings is located! And she was right!

What a gift for all of us to share the time with Patricia, to learn of her gift and her sharing. What an inspiration she was to all of us! I am reminded of 1 Peter: "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." How well indeed Patricia used her gift!

After thanking Patricia and the

wonderful ladies of Knox, we walked to lunch. What a sight we must have been that sunny day—16 women walking, chatting and laughing. Upon entering the Honey West restaurant, three elderly ladies looked at us and one said to me, "how wonderful to see such happy people". Isn't that the truth? I remember that lunch was delicious and if I eat five more and don't lose my card the next one is free. I remember that on that June day my belly was full, but I don't remember what I ate. I know that my memory of that day, shared with my sisters in Christ is vivid and good and that I am meant to share it with you. I know that my heart is full and that I am thankful.

May God bless you!

---

# In a pickle over cukes!

By Anna Robertson

Many years ago on a Sunday after church, Bill Hunter (older brother of Doug, father of Bob and a former elder and strong supporter of this church) asked me if I still made mustard pickles. "Yes I do," was my reply.

Bill said that he was cleaning up his cucumber patch and would bring me the large cucumbers. He arrived the next day with eight, 11-quart baskets filled with lovely fresh cukes.

With my thrifty background (Mennonite), I must not waste. So all day long I peeled, sliced, seeded and diced until every available container was full of freshly cubed cukes. Fortunately, I had a garburator. As the sink filled with peelings and seeds, I simply pushed the switch and everything went down the drain. With a sigh, I was happy—the big job was done. The vegetables had to be salted and sit overnight; the bottling and pickling would start the next day.

I had a box of new jars and decided to put them through the dishwasher so they would be ready for the next morning. A few minutes later, to my horror, green liquid was seeping from the dishwasher. I mopped it up and started all over again. But the results were the same.

When I went into the laundry room, the sink was full of green goo.

I finally realized that I had not used enough water to flush away the garbage in my garburator and the pipes were plugged.

So, I called the plumber (\$50 at that time) and he opened the pipes to the basement. Fortunately, I had an old laundry tub. It was filled close to overflowing, but I again had clean water in my dishwasher.

My daughter, who had been away visiting a friend, missed out on the initial mess. But the next morning, she pulled the shower curtain back



and I heard her holler, "Mom, come and see this!" Ugh! It was filled with the same green goo—resulting in another \$50 call to the plumber.

In the end, I had 51 pints of mustard pickles. If I had really been thrifty, I would have put a little table at the roadside and sold pickles for \$2 a jar—enough to pay the plumber. Instead, we had enough mustard pickles to last a few years.



# Congregational picnic



---

# Congregational Picnic *(Cont'd from page 17)*



---

# Collecting for Newark Neighbours Oct. 3 and 4

By Don Laird

As some of you may know I am taking on the collection duties for Newark Neighbours. A vote of thanks is certainly due to Ian Ness and Tom Cochrane for the work they have done over the years. Brenda and the ladies of Newark Neighbours on John St. very much appreciated their efforts.

Sheila and I have lived for 13 years next door to Newark Neighbours—from Peggy Anderson's time until now—and know them well. We are

glad to be of assistance to this well-run charity.

It is again time for another collection. I checked with them and it appears that we are their main source for toiletries. They are in need of toothpaste, brushes, soap, shampoo and conditioner specifically.

They would also be grateful for donations of canned goods, peanut butter, pasta, rice, etc.

Newark Neighbours is a registered charity and can issue a tax receipt for donations of \$10 or more. If you find it more convenient to donate cash, Barbara Ahluwalia will be pleased to send a receipt.

The collection dates will be Saturday, Oct. 3 from 10.00 a.m. until noon and Sunday, Oct. 4 before and after church in the church hall.

Your assistance will be appreciated.

## Presbyterians Sharing

By Ian Ness

We are in this together—we are God's servants working as one.

You will more readily appreciate the inspirational endeavours of those in the field by reading the listing below of some of the many remarkable aspects of this outreach program.

### Mission and ministry in Canada

In 2009, grants from Canada Ministries are helping:

Create 14 new ministries;

Renew six ministries;

Sustain 19 ministries; and

Support 31 specified ministries (inner city, chaplaincy, refugee and native).

### Around the world

International ministries support: 34 mission personnel, including spouses, working with partner churches in 16 countries. In addition, more than 14 short-term vol-

unteers are being sent to support our partners in 2009.

We also support church partners in Christian education, bible translation, leadership development, theological education and evangelism.

The most exciting aspect is to realize that by contributing to this outreach program, we are actually present at the site, while still residing in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

We have set ourselves a *Presbyterians Sharing* budget of \$20,000 for 2009 and Ron Ferguson advises me that we stand at \$11,319 as of July 31. Averaging this out over seven months, we should come close to our budget by the end of the year. Let us ensure that all those selfless people out in the field have the means to do God's work both here in Canada and overseas.



*Ruth Stepsum and her grandsons attend healing circles at Hummingbird Ministries in British Columbia's lower mainland.*

---

Sharing—it's who we are as Presbyterians.

---

## Guess who?

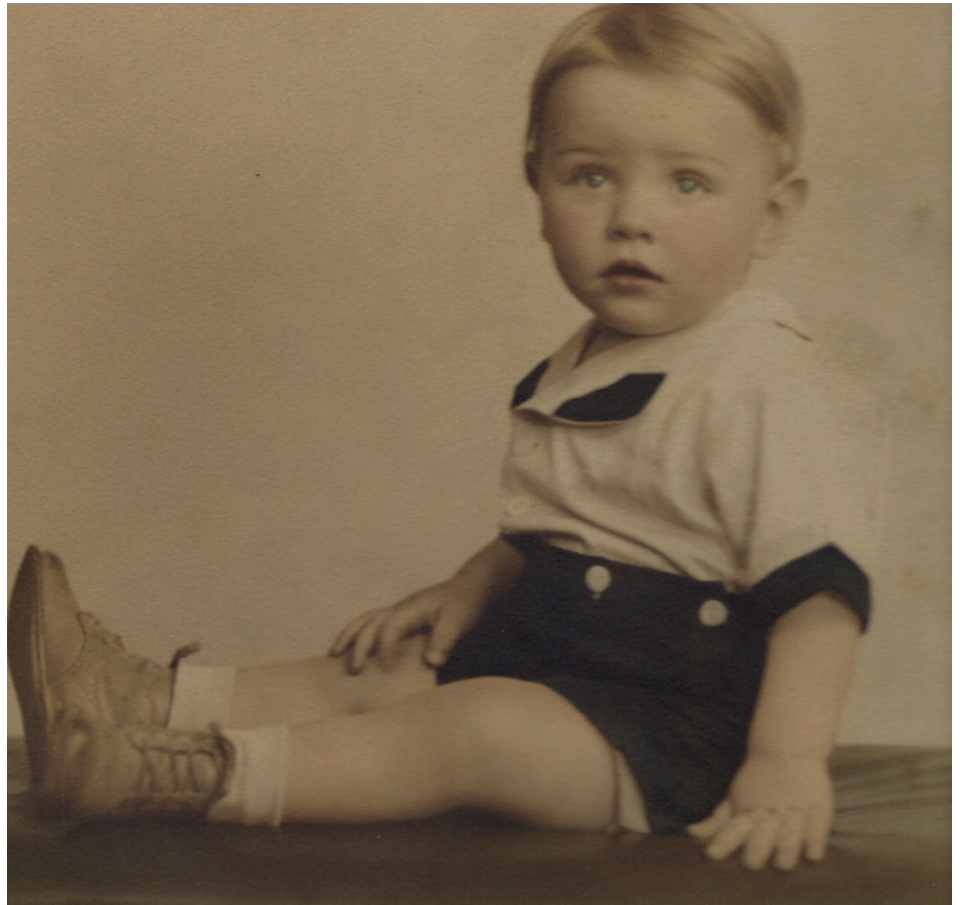
Thanks to our readers who submitted "Guess who?" photos for this issue. I have enough photos for the next issue as well.

Bet you can't guess who this sweet little guy is!

If you have submitted a photo that has not been returned, you will find the original in the *Herald* box on top of the piano in the Kirk Hall.

Photos can be scanned and returned within a week.

Thanks for your help in continuing this *Herald* feature.



## Fierce golfing competition

By Barb Nattress

Seventeen eager members of St. Andrew's trekked to Haliburton Aug. 10 to 12 to play in the 3rd annual St. Andrews-Haliburton Open golf tournament. It was a three-day event, with golfers playing two nine-hole courses and one 18-hole course.

The competition was fierce and those who did not 'make the cut' on the first day went canoeing or on a shopping excursion. Half the participants were welcomed at the cottage of Gord McKindsey and the other half stayed at the Nattress cottage.

After golf there was swimming, eating, talking, eating, laughing and eating. The real event was the second night when awards and trophies were awarded to deserving golfers.

The coveted St. Andrews-Haliburton Open trophy this year went to Bob Hunter. Congratulations Bob. Once again we thank Gord McKindsey for his warm hospitality and planning expertise in organizing this event that is so much fun.



*Bob Hunter can cook a pretty mean burger too!*

## Accepting Christ into his life

When crocodile hunter Steve Irwin died in Sept. 2006, millions of people were deeply saddened. The 44-year-old Australian conservationist and television personality was killed when the barb of a stingray pierced his chest while filming on the Great Barrier Reef.

A story has circulated, however, that sheds a surprisingly bright light on this tragedy. According to reports from Australia, Steve's wife Teri and their two children had been attending a small church in Beerwah, where they lived. Just a month or so before Steve died, he started accompanying his family to church and accepted Christ into his life during an altar call. He was later quoted as saying those were the best weeks of his life.

Something for us all to think about today.

*Submitted by Pat Caldwell*



## Cheeky cherub



*Ann and Bob Crooks were delighted to welcome their first grandchild on May 11, with the birth of Zoë Elizabeth Crooks in Warsaw, Poland. Zoë is the daughter of Colin and Liz Crooks and is considered "a real blessing" after their close to 15 years of marriage. "She reminds us of our son," says Ann, who also claims this is Zoë's "cheeky" look. Zoë's dad works for Shell International in various countries around the world.*

## A senior moment

*For all of us who are seniors, for all of you who know seniors and for all of you who will be seniors, it pays to be able to laugh about it when you are! Here's one senior moment that caused me to laugh.*

"Where is my Sunday paper?" the irate customer calling the newspaper office loudly demanded.

"Ma'am, today is Saturday," said the newspaper employee. The Sunday paper is not delivered until tomorrow."

There was quite a long pause on the other end of the phone, followed by a ray of recognition, as she was heard to mutter, "So that's why no one was at church today."

---

# Putting the ‘straw’ in Strawberry Festival

By Marsha Scott

All photos by Stephanie Kamstra

Rain, rain, go away...come again another day. And preferably not on June 17, 2010!

Mailmen may have to brave wind, snow and sleet, but for sure, they have never had to assemble a strawberry pie when it's teeming rain and mud is squishing between their toes in soaked sandals. Thank goodness for the straw that soaked up some of the water from the great downpours we experienced during this year's Strawberry Festival!



As horrible as the weather was on June 19, miracles did occur! We didn't make as much money as we have in recent years, but it was a miracle that we did as well as we did—in spite of the rain. The teamwork that occurred when the odds were against us was a vision to behold. God is good!

It never ceases to amaze me how the people of this church come together when there's a job to be done! Blessings to all of you who united to make this year's Festival work. Thank you God and thank you St. Andrew's!

They say that "When the going gets tough, the tough get going." Well, I'm convinced Presbyterians are tough!

It rained, but we plugged on doggedly!

Some sections were unexpect

edly run off their feet, as people rushed in to snap up baking and pies while they lasted and then rushed off to avoid the downpour, but volunteers from other sections jumped in to help the busy sections!

We ran out of strawberries, but we shared berries and sold everything we could.

The Niagara Regional Health Unit inspector lurked everywhere to ensure we were working to their cooking, refrigeration, storage and food-handling standards; so we complied the best we could with what we had—even though some of the requirements were a surprise. On top of that, we are committed to making it work even better next year.

I know Rev. McGale could probably find a Bible quotation somewhere that would apply to how we faced adversity, but I'll leave that to her.

**Next year is a new year.** The rain, perhaps, forced us to face the reality this year. We have been getting bigger and bigger every year and perhaps, we've gotten a little too big for our britches! We're a small church with gumption. But we're still a small church. Perhaps we'll have to cut back on some of our Strawberry Festival offerings next year. Maybe we'll have to choose between peameal and sausages, or crepes and shortcakes. But for sure, we'll continue to offer excellent food and service.

And we'll certainly have to pay attention to Niagara Regional Health Unit expectations. We are not being singled out as "violators". The unit is cracking down on everyone, and it just makes sense to follow the health rules in the current social environment. Yes, fairs have been running for hundreds of years. But the public is much more sensitive now than ever about "what ifs".

---

# Strawberry Festival 2009 *(Cont'd from page 22)*

We can no longer keep our whipping cream in coolers; we need both hot and cold running water; and we need flooring in all food preparation and storage areas. It seems like a pain (and it is) but that's the way things are. Head-gear is standard for food handlers; separate handwash sinks are required in food preparation areas.

St. Andrew's (and everyone else who runs a fair) is now subject to rigid regulations. But—we're Presbyterians, and we can do it.

The fact is, we sold all the pies we could sell this year; the bake table was sold out; crepes were sold out; at times, we couldn't keep up with the demand for jam; the results of the silent auction were good; and so were the flea market numbers. Some food and drink sales were down, but that was to be expected under the circumstances.

"You done good!" St. Andrew's. And next year, God willing, we'll do even better—because we don't doubt the power of prayer.



# Strawberry Festival 2009 *(Cont'd from page 23)*



# Strawberry Festival 2009



---

# Volunteerism and religion

According to Statistics Canada, those who attend weekly religious services are more likely to volunteer their time than those who do not, they tend to volunteer more of their time, and 57 percent of their efforts go to non-religious causes.

This year at least four members/adherents of this congregation—Richard Merritt, Doug Hunter, Lil Aylesworth and George Howse—have received recognition for volunteerism in the community.

Both Doug Hunter and Richard Merritt received 2009 “Volunteer of the Year” awards. Lil Aylesworth received a 25-year pin for service to the Shaw Guild. And George Howse received a lifetime honorary membership from the Rotary Club for his volunteer service.

## Richard Merritt

“The volunteer award in the heritage category was a big surprise,” says Richard Merritt, who felt very honoured by the recognition.

Richard’s contribution to heritage in the town has been enormous. “My proudest moment was chairing a committee of citizens that approached the Historic Sites and Monument Board of Canada to have the old town designated a national historic district about six years ago,” says Richard. “We were successful in making the old town the first national historic district in Ontario.”

Richard, an ophthalmologist in Niagara Falls (wife Nancy Smith is also an ophthalmologist), says he has always been interested in his-

tory. “My parents and grandparents were interested in history,” he says. “Although we grew up in London, we always came here every summer to visit other family.” That’s how Richard began attending St. Andrew’s. It was natural then for him to return to St. Andrew’s when he came back to practise in 1973. “I love St. Andrew’s,” he says. “My daughters



Tiffany and Susannah (both in Toronto now) became members.”

Richard has been very involved with the Niagara Historical Society for about 25 years, including president; he is also currently president of the Niagara Foundation, dedicated to preserving the architectural heritage of Niagara. He is also past president and is still a member of Friends of Fort George.

## Doug Hunter

Doug, 84, received his recognition award for volunteering with seniors

in the community. For at least 20 years, Doug has played the piano for monthly Ladies’ Auxiliary parties and “goodie” days at Upper Canada Lodge—afternoons of music and treats.

“It was a great experience and I know there were a few people who really appreciated it,” says Doug. “They would be clapping all the time.” Doug also visited with the residents after.

Doug says his volunteer efforts have mostly centred on the church. He has been church treasurer, an elder and a member of the Board of Managers. He also taught Sunday school. Perhaps most importantly, he has been the organist, choir director, or a member of the choir for “crowding 70 years”. He still plays the organ when Gerzinus Hoekstra is away.

Doug and his wife, Betty, have four children: two daughters, both members of St. Andrew’s, Lynn and



---

## Volunteerism and religion *(cont'd from page 26)*

Kathy (the church secretary); and two sons, Alan in Ottawa and David in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

### Lil Aylesworth



*Lil, left, with Elizabeth McIntrye during the Strawberry Festival.*

Lil was honoured to receive her 25-year pin from the Shaw Guild in August. She was humble in accepting it, saying others received pins for even more service. However, her service to the Shaw Guild has been significant and she is still involved with the guild.

"I started to help the Shaw Guild when my husband Bob was president of the guild," she says. "I started the 'garden gang' for the Shaw." To this day, the Shaw Guild depends on a group of volunteers to tend the Shaw Festival gardens.

In the early 1990s, Lil, with the encouragement of Christopher Newton, started the Shaw Show of the

Arts. "We raised \$13,000," she says. "Walter Carson of Toronto offered us dollar for dollar, which doubled the amount. So we raised \$26,000 from the art show in our first year."

"That was pretty wonderful," she says. "It was the biggest amount the guild had ever earned." The art show went on for several years, raising a lot of money for the Shaw Festival.

Lil (with husband Bob, until he passed away a year and a half ago) has attended St. Andrew's for approximately 18 years.

She and Bob came from Stratford and Lil has lived here for 25 years. "I volunteer a lot with other groups," she says, "but it has taken a lot of reorganizing of my thoughts since my husband died."

Lil and Bob never had children; they were both career bankers.

### George Howse

George, who turns 85 in October, is not too sure how long he has been a member of the Rotary Club. But he was a member of the Lewiston-Queenston Rotary Club for a number of years before he had to give it up when he was elected to the school board.

"I have always known how important the work of the Rotary Club is," says George. "Their immunization of children around the world for polio is so important."

He figures he has been a member of the Rotary Club for 15 to 20

years. He served on the executive of both the Queenston club and the Niagara-on-the-Lake club. But this is the first time he has come across the "lifetime honorary membership" that he received.

"I guess it was for service to the community," says George. He was on the board of St. John's Ambulance for 17 years (three years as chairman); he served on Town Council for four years; he was a member of the school board for nine years; and he has served in just about every position at St. Andrew's, including superintendent of the Sunday School for 16 years and Sunday school teacher before that.

George was born in Niagara-on-the-Lake and went to school here until he was 16, when he went to work in St. Catharines as an apprentice toolmaker for a year. He then joined the Navy. After service, he finished highschool and went to the University of Toronto



## St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

323 Simcoe St.  
PO Box 441  
Niagara-on-the-Lake  
LoS 1Jo

### Regular Office Hours

Monday -Thursday Mornings  
905-468-3363  
www.standrewsniagara.com

### Minister

Rev. Barb McGale  
barbmcale@standrewsniagara.com

### Clerk of Session

David Natress

### Organist and Choir

### Director

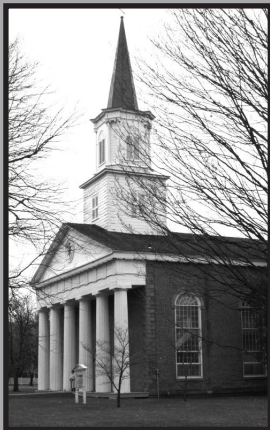
Dr. Gerzinus Hoekstra

### Secretary

Kathy Hunter

### Editor

Marsha Scott  
905-468-9371  
marshascott@cogeco.ca



## In memory

By Doug Hunter

**ELIZABETH FRANCES MOORE (BISSELL)** died on July 9 in her 91st year. She was predeceased by her husband Frank in 1999. She was the loving mother of Bruce (Kristy) of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Alan (Dale) of Virgil; grandmother of Sandra (Jamie) of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Brenda of St. Catharines, Douglas (Michelle) of Burlington and Richard and Colleen of Virgil. She is also survived by her great grandchildren Jenna, Kayla, Alexis and Austin. She was also a cousin to Jack Garrett of Toronto.

Elizabeth was a life-long member of St. Andrew's. She sang in the choir for more than 50 years, belonged to the Women's Fellowship and taught Sunday school. Until recently she could be seen in her pew on most Sundays. Her ancestors were members of the founding congregation of St. Andrew's.

Her funeral was held at St. Andrew's and she was buried in the church cemetery.

### **RAYMOND (RAY) CROSSE**

passed away on July 19 at the Niagara-on-the-Lake hospital. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Margaret Jean, and daughters Debbie and Lisa. A daughter, Cheryl predeceased him in 2007. He was also grandfather to Spencer, Chelsea and Adam and great grandfather to Hayden.

He and his wife were members of St. Andrew's. The funeral was held in the church with interment in the church cemetery.

### **HERBERT FRANCIS (BERT) KING**

died Aug. 20 at the age of 93. Bert is survived by his wife, Phyllis Dean, and his six sons, Peter (the late Dianne), John (Barbara), Ken (Joan), Ted, Bill (Sandra) and Steve (Ann) and daughter-in-law Marlene. He is also survived by 18 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. A private family service was followed by burial at Lakeshore Cemetery.

## Volunteerism and religion *(cont'd from page 27)*

to get his Bachelor of Arts. He taught for 30 years.

George's two daughters, Susan and Mary-Ann, attend church regularly. His son, George, passed away four years ago. His wife, Anne, died in 1995.

"I've been a member of St. Andrew's for almost 60 years," says George. "It's definitely important in my life. I try to make it to church every Sunday and brought my children up in the church."