



Waves, Ripples & Hellos

St. Andrew's United Church

Summer 2007

newsletter@standrewsunitied.org

Editor's Note:

Although this Waves .. is intended to be St. Andrew's invitation and information vehicle, we tend to present each edition with a prevailing idea. (or is it merely where the editor's head is going on a particular week?)

As I look over the information that is currently available for this edition, I am thinking of "feet". Our minister, Rev. Harrison will tell you about her entry into another world as Captain Harrison. Basic training in the military always includes activities that involve *feet*- they call it marching! Andrea will learn more of the significance of strong feet. The feet of many basic trainers are 'excused' from the parade square due to lack of strength or care. (I remember this from 1st Officer's Training School, RCAF, London, ON)

A recent Summer Event organized by the Ottawa-Montreal Conference of the United Church was titled "We are the Hands and Feet of Jesus", which brought me to the symbolism of 'feet'.

The memorial and commemorative services at Vimy Ridge make one pause and think of the feet of our soldiers as they endured day after day in reeking mud.

Our village will soon be paying homage to a famous Canadian from much earlier times; the map-maker of Canada, David Thompson. He too wrote of the

desperate need to care for those body structures called feet.

I think we have too long emphasized the love and knowledge of God through the symbolism of hands!

The homophones, 'soles' and 'souls' bear me out! The comedienne, Lily Tomlinson added another thought on feet. "Why isn't there a special name for the tops of your feet?"

Carol Edwards
Editor

Letter from Our Minister

Dear Friends:

By the time you read this, I will be well into my Basic Officer Training (BOTC) at the Chaplains' School at the Canadian Forces Base in Borden. For Reserve Chaplains, this is four weeks of training. The first two weeks will focus on fitness and military skills, including field exercises. The last two weeks will focus on pastoral skills and the role of the chaplain in the military. The course runs from April 30 to May 25th.

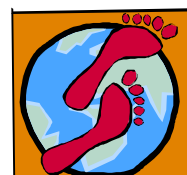
During my absence, Rev. Gary Stokes will be providing coverage for the pastoral charge, in case of any pastoral emergencies. You are welcome to contact him at 347-1363, or any other clergy in the area.

Different people will be leading

worship each week, and there will be a range of themes: Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Mothers' Day, Theological Worlds, and Pentecost. It could be an inspiring month for all of us!

The last time I packed and prepared for ministry training that would be an entirely different experience than what I am used to, was in April 1996. That was for a 16 week internship with a church and various non-governmental organizations in Puerto Cabezas, in the north Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. Before going to Nicaragua, I learned some Spanish.

In this past year, while serving with the SD&G Highlanders, I have learned many military acronyms (because the military really does have a language of its own, not to mention language that I can't use at home or at church). My physical training, before going to Nicaragua, included a women's self defense course, along with continued karate training. My physical training, before BOTC, has included running with the Raisin River Ramblers (distances of 9-18 km), walking through the trails behind our home (with or without a pack), and a 13km 'march' around the streets of Cornwall (with only 20-25lbs of gear - but this taught me a lot about foot care).



Waves, Ripples & Hellos

I will be at Borden for two anniversaries. Bill Chambré and I were married at the Protestant Chapel at CFB Borden on May 4th, 1991. We have some unconventional photos of us and the wedding party, standing in front of, or on, a tank in the park across the road from the chapel. I haven't been back to Borden since Bill was posted to Kingston in 1992. The other anniversary will be on May 18th – one year since I was sworn in as chaplain at the Regiment.

By the time I return home, we will be busy with all the special church services in June. We will celebrate our gifts, our differences, and commune together as the body of Christ in a shared service together in Williamstown on June 3rd. On June 10th, we will worship together in Martintown and 'reconvent' with one another. That is to say, the Martintown and Williamstown churches will renew their commitment to one another as a pastoral charge, celebrating 45 years since this union, and the pastoral charge and I will renew our commitment to each other, and celebrate our 10 years together. On June 24th, we will come together for worship again in Williamstown for a worship service that reflects, in part, the history of the village and the weekend celebrations of the map maker and explorer, David Thompson.

So, until then, blessings to all of you.

(Rev.) Andrea Harrison
28 April, 2007

Service Schedule:

May 6th: Canadian Foodgrains Bank – Mackie Robertson

May 13th: Mother's Day or Family Day – Lorna McKendry

May 27th: Pentecost – The Congregation presents the service provided by Seaway Valley Presbytery – our representative to Presbytery volunteered to provide the sermon!

June 3rd 10am: Williamstown

Communion and Theological Worlds

June 10th 10am Reconvenanting and Anniversary of Charge:

Guest: Rev. Doug MacKay

Andrea has been our minister for 10 years – this Sunday is a celebration and re-affirmation of our ministry together.

June 17th: Father's Day and First Nations Sunday – Lorna McKendry.

June 24th: David Thompson celebrations in Williamstown.

Last day of Sunday school.

Summer Services

July – Services will be at Martintown at 10 am.

July 1st: Rev. Andrea Harrison

July 8th: Wilma Scott

July 15th: Rev. Andrea Harrison

July 22nd: Rev. Andrea Harrison

July 29th: Wilma Scott

August and Labour Day-Services will be in Williamstown at 10 am.

Aug 5th: Rev. Andrea Harrison

Aug 12th : Rev. Andrea Harrison

August 19th: Lorna McKendry

August 26th: Lorna McKendry

Sept 2nd: Lorna McKendry

Fall Services

Sept 9th: Rev. Andrea Harrison

Sept 16th: Rev. Harrison and Guest Speaker – St.Andrew's 220th Anniversary

Community Events:

Plant Sale: Bake Sale: Saturday, May 5th Irvine Hall

Reminder about time! It is 8 am to 12 noon so you must be an early bird to get plants and butter tarts.

David Thompson Weekend: June 23-24th:

Watch for lists of exciting events to be held at both the Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum and the Sir John Johnson House.

On Saturday morning, June 23rd, canoes will be coming up the river from Lancaster to a landing stage in Williamstown.

There will be a dedication of the Métis Canoe that brings back the spirits of the Métis who died in the World Wars. Sandy Campbell, (nephew of Grant Campbell), Sean Redmond, and Rev. Andrea Harrison will lead this service of dedication.

Waves, Ripples & Hellos

Are you hankering for a dinner of bison and kinnikinick? That too might be featured.

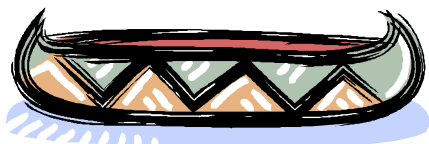
A dinner to honour Hugh P. MacMillan, Archivist and a constant supporter of our museum, will be held at St. Mary's Centre on Friday, June 22nd.

Check out educational displays at your child's (grandchild's) school. Canadians living in British Columbia, who so venerate David Thompson, would be impressed that our children attend a school in Williamstown that is built on land once owned by the map-maker himself!

Our church will be playing a supporting role in this weekend event.

Check out your copy of our church history where you can learn of a stranger-than-fiction story whereby David Thompson once owned our church and land!!!

I have heard of no acknowledgement of his wife, Charlotte Small; she surely must have had an important part in the life of KooKooSint, the Stargazer.



Char-Lan's Chapter of Save the Children

Last Thursday, April 26th the Char-Lan Chapter held a fund-raising spaghetti supper in our Irvine Hall. Teacher and co leader of this group is Lynn Larkin; Kelly Ann Rogers

is the other leader.

We can experience a flutter of pride in the success of this Save the Children Chapter. Its birth originated with the insistence of Barbara McIntosh at Bishop's University, where the Summer Event of Ottawa-Montreal Conference was being held. I can claim only a flutter for us because people like Lynn, Kelly Ann and the students of Char-Lan have made the idea live.

The aim of the spaghetti supper was to raise funds for a well in Sri Lanka. As of today they can report that the dinner was a great success in volunteering, but whether they made the targeted \$650 is not certain – all bills are not in yet! You know what follows: If you care to donate to this cause you may send a cheque to Lynn Larkin at Char-Lan District High School, Williamstown ON, K0C 2J0. Cheques should be made out to Char-Lan Chapter of Save the Children.

From the volunteer list, I noted members of our church (likely missed some) but the names I noted were: Vice Principal: Tim Power, Guidance Head: Rita Buttle-Smart, Students: Dan Bougie and Scott MacDonald.

Some comments by way of my daughter, Susan as related to her by Pat Larkin: (does that constitute a grapevine?) "It was great to see the group working at fund-raising, but it was really more rewarding to see them engaged in volunteer work. Some of the students had never been involved in anything like it before."

As their Vice-Principal, Tim

Power put it; they had learned the joy of volunteering.

Scott McDonald (known in Williamstown circles as 'Scottie') led the dishwashing finale as he showed the routine like a professional from the Health Unit: – hot water in the sinks – measured Javex in the rinse; and like a maestro he directed 8 to 10 peers in singing and dishwashing.

The April issue of The Observer has an interview article with Craig Keilberger (founder of Save the Children)

I too, feel a connection because a niece of mine will be visiting the Keilbergers (brothers Craig and Marc) in Africa in July.

Our other Africa-connection is Penney Place who, as you remember, is working in Lesotho. Penney's friend among us is Linda Kubelka who recently gave a report at Sunday worship. Penney has promised to visit us again. Watch for an announcement about time and place.

From a Telephone Conversation with Lorna McKendry

Lorna will be our worship leader on Father's Day and again for three Sundays in August. We are thankful that she has come to worship with us and we are especially grateful that she is willing to provide leadership!

Lorna graduated from Queen's Theological College with a Masters Degree in Divinity. From this you could rightfully guess that Lorna became acquainted with our

Waves, Ripples & Hellos

minister, Andrea Harrison while at Queens. What good fortune for all of us that you two became friends!

Lorna has a background in teaching in several and far-flung places. She has taught in Northwestern Ontario, in Africa in Northern Nigeria and to another continent (sub continent) when she worked in Bangladesh. Wow! Such a varied experience makes a perfect fit for her work now as she teaches adults who have immigrated to Canada from equally diverse countries.

We feel that Lorna is one of us now as she worships regularly in St. Andrew's, Williamstown. I think she feels welcome and happy to be with us. Thank you, Lorna for giving us the gift of your leadership in worship

Remembering Vimy 90 Years Later

I will try to do justice to a conversation with our son, John Edwards. I asked, "What is special about seeing the Vimy Memorial for the first time?" John told me how he and Jodi had been away from home for about two months when they were at Vimy for the first time. They were riding bicycles, and as they entered the long lane approaching the great white monument on the famed ridge they said, "It smelled like home". Such a reaction was largely due to the maple trees planted there as a statement of remembrance for Canada's part in two horrific wars.

A piece of Canada exists in northern France: the signage looks like home; written in our two

languages: the people working at the site are Canadians!

John saw Vimy this year in a new way as he accompanied twenty-three high school students from Vankleek Hill Collegiate as they attended the 90th Anniversary of the unveiling of the newly restored memorial. The images that affected him most were the sights of the shell-cratered land surrounding the monument; the lists on lists of names etched in luminescent limestone; the recreated trenches and tunnels where soldiers have carved their names and maple leaves into the chalk walls.

The symbols of maple leaves - symbols of a nation being born - They were there many years before our nation would embrace the maple leaf as its flag.

John talked of the messages made by the many monuments that he has visited in Europe. He emphasized that to him the Vimy monument is a monument of sacrifice rather than one of victory. Thirty six hundred Canadians died to take that ridge, but the Vimy monument holds the names of eleven thousand Canadians who died in Europe, who have no known grave. To illustrate, one could look at the monument depicting the American action on Iwo Jima - the planting of the Stars and Stripes symbolizes victory. A famous Russian monument depicts the sword crushing the swastika. The bowed figures of "weeping Canada" on Vimy speak of the unspeakable sacrifice.

John said that the absolutely, most impressive moments occurred as a

part of the commemorative day - no one would know of these moments unless you were there. A student chosen from each school group was assigned a name of a soldier and then directed to stand by the gravestone bearing the name of that soldier. The parade to the cemetery was led by kilted pipe bands from Canada. Another student from each group was chosen to carry a gigantic Canadian flag. I was impressed to hear that the young woman chosen to act in the flag party offered her place to another student who she knew and to whom this honour would have much greater meaning. That young man wore a Balmoral of the Glengarry Highlanders.

I know these stories were not carried in any national press but they bring tears to my eyes as I attempt to relate them to you.

When our representatives to the Vimy memorial were near Cannes, they heard of a little known brass plaque that bore a message about our Glens. With further investigation they found it: A fairly large plaque; the central inscription was:

"Up the Glens"

"In recognition of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Highland Regiment, one of the first regiments to enter Cannes following the Normandy Invasion."

Waves, Ripples & Hellos

Editor's Note: Do take time to read the article in Macleans magazine written by Joseph Boyden. It is titled *The Day the Earth Shook*. You can locate this article at www.macleans.ca then click on 'search' using the author's name or title of article.

A response in the magazine's 'Mail Bag' of the next issue says this: "Joseph Boyden's piece on Vimy should be required reading for every Canadian"..... "...,"committed to memory and recited aloud by every politician and military person of rank before they vote on sending these brave men and women on any mission for our country.

Boyden's article describes the verdant grass and the sheep roaming about the ridge. That creates a pretty picture until, as John and Jodi told me, the sheep are there for a frightening reason. The land is still riddled with mortars that periodically blow up, killing the innocent sheep: better them than humans on lawn mowers!

"I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity" *General Dwight D. Eisenhower*

Rotation Sunday School:

As I wait for a report from Sunday School Coordinator, Jennifer Lafave, I am contemplating the message held within a sealed bottle of strange green water and glitter bits that was presented to me last Sunday. I think it had to do with change or was it the transformation

of water into wine? Am hoping there was strength in the "sealed" aspect!

Report from Jennifer: We have had a busy April in Sunday school, beginning, planning and working at our Trial and Crucifixion wall hanging. This will be a project that will likely extend into next year, and one in which everyone will leave a mark!

We have begun our 6th rotation of Year 3 with the story of Noah's ark. We have played games, cooked banana boats, made trail mix, a wave bottle (now I know the significance of the coloured water) and designed our own arks. We will test the arks next week.

The year will end with the story of the Pentecost.

Our last Sunday will be June 24th. On that day we will celebrate the end of the year with fun, games and always, treats!

Eavesdropping:

I wanted a title to get your attention!

On looking up **eavesdropping**, I find it is: "an activity indictable under common law"! Ask Bev Craig about cleaning out the front flowerbeds at our church and it could be the word to describe the white deposits on the foliage below the eaves! With pigeons on your eaves, you can develop an equally odious definition.

Now, to repeat the results of eavesdropping.

A party for a fine couple who sit near the back of the church, on the south side, will take place in Irvine

Hall, this Saturday May 5th.

Last Sunday I heard someone wonder aloud at the number of daffodils in the church bouquet. "Who has such abundance that they can cut so many?" Nancy and Jay Woollven, that's who. Their pond area must look like Wordsworth's poem.

I wandered lonely as a Cloud

That floats on high o'er Vales and Hills

When all at once I saw a crowd

A host of golden daffodils.

Joyce Lewis may be persuaded to use the power point and our big, new screen to project her pictures from her trip to China. (I should say 'their trip' – Jim went too!)

Deb Jenkins has another motivational film that we might be able to obtain. How many saw a previous one that she brought to us? It was titled "The Art of Possibility".

Contest: Who can recite the rest of the above poem? Try out your recitation on the editor, or one of the plant people. This season's prize will be a pot from the plant sale.

The Last Word: it is yours! newsletter@standrewunited.org

P.O Box 114, Williamstown

Please let us know if you have some ideas about *Waves, Ripples and Hellos*.

I received some great observations that can help in distribution. Thanks.