



# Waves, Ripples & Hellos

St. Andrew's United Church

Fall 2007

[newsletter@standrewsunitied.org](mailto:newsletter@standrewsunitied.org)

## Editor's Note

### **"Summer's lease hath all too short a date"**

- William Shakespeare

I think that Lorna McKendry gave me inspiration for "Fall".

It is a New Year! For those who missed her message on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, (dig,dig) I will give you the text and a few phrases from Lorna.

An excerpt from Colossians Chapter 3, verses 3-11 from The Message translation reads something like this, "Be done with that old life, now you are dressed in a new life. Every item of your new life is custom-made by the creator. It has God's label on it.

As Lorna said, resolutions for a new start can apply now as we start a new school and church year.

There is God's list as well as the list for back-to-school needs. God's list contains all that we must carry with us everyday – justice, kindness, caring, sharing, respect and love.

For us as Christians, everyday is a good time to reflect on what we want our lives to be. Make a list and check it twice - with God!

Please don't rely on these few notes: the complete sermon and related text can be found on our web-site.

[www.standrewsunitied.org](http://www.standrewsunitied.org)

I am sure I speak for many as I relate our thanks to Lorna for the several times she provided us with

meaningful leadership in Andrea's absence.

Personal thanks come from this family following the celebration of Fifty years of marriage for Mac and me.

Lorna had the dubious task of taking a group picture of about sixty relatives and friends. I think half of the assembly had a camera with a request that she use it for the "picture"! Amid much chattering, came orders to "back up", "use the zoom", "press the silver button" to "take the picture"! In spite of all this, Lorna shared her expertise and good humour.

Carol Edwards  
*Editor*

## Service Schedule

### **September 16: 220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary St. Andrew's Williamstown**

Service at 10:30 am

Guest Speaker: The Honourable  
Flora MacDonald

### **September 23: St. Andrew's, Williamstown**

Service at 9:30am (usual time)

Rev. Andrea Harrison

### **September 30: St. Andrew's Williamstown**

Service at 9:30am

Lorna McKendry

## Church Meetings

### **September 18: Ministry & Personnel Committee**

At Home of Chair (Edwina Billyk)

### **Memory Makers and Keepers, Tuesday Sept 18, 10:30 at Irvine Hall**

Thanks to the generosity of the MacGregor Bequest, monies to support a seniors group has been achieved. The first activity or project to kick off this new initiative will prompt "seniors" to record their memories (e.g., of others, of people, of places, and/or of events in the local area).

What can/would you like to do? Ideas and thoughts are welcome. This would be of interest to long time residents (you have so much to share) and to newly arrived (a great way to meet/appreciate your chosen community)

Please join us to plan this exciting project on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is Welcome. Bring a friend. Call **Penny Cavell** (613 - 347 -3508), email [pecavell@sympatico.ca](mailto:pecavell@sympatico.ca), to say **"Yes, I'll join for coffee/tea to discuss this project."**

### **September 26: Session Meeting Irvine Hall, 7:30 pm**

### **October 24: Proposed Congregational Meeting**

This congregational meeting will be called because it is now one.

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year since we made a motion to change the worship centre in the church.

It was decided one year ago that we would meet to take a vote that would decide if we wish to revert the configuration of the chancel to what it was at that time.

## October 22, 29 November 5, 12:

**Saving Jesus:** Ever feel Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right? The above dates are suggested for the beginning sessions of a 12 session DVD based study for small-groups.

The format for each 1 hour session includes a conversation around the readings, and a 20-minute video segment.

JOIN Marcus Borg, Mathew Fox, Helen Prejean, John Bell, and John Shelby Spong and others for an exploration of the relevance of Jesus Christ for the third millennium.

## Outreach:

### **Pastoral Care Course: September 20, 27 & October 4**

Vera Nutall has conducted this course, which deals with death and dying, at other venues throughout Ottawa and Seaway Valley Presbyteries. The sessions will be held in Irvine Hall from 7 pm to 10 pm each night.

This course is open to anyone from all congregations in our area who would like to improve their skills in helping friends, families, and neighbours through difficult times.

For more information, contact Karen Paavila at 525-1399.

## Community Events:

### **October 14: Ecumenical Pet Blessing**

Williamstown Fairgrounds, 3:00 pm. Please note that all pets are to be "contained" in whatever manner that is appropriate (i.e. fish in a bowl, or dog on a leash.).

## Photo Directory

The photo sessions will take place during **October 11, 12 and 13**. To be assured that you and yours are included in this colourful directory call **Shelley MacNaughton at 613-347-1693**.

If you or a family member cannot arrange to have your picture taken on between October 11 and 13, a picture can be submitted. The notice in the bulletin says that photos may be given to Shelley. This sounds like a good way to include offspring that are away at college and university. (Also makes me think that I could drop off a picture of ten years' ago!)

We are reminded to contribute pictures of church activities: (Church School, Turkey Supper, Baptisms, Weddings, Pancake Supper) for a directory collage.

New members have remarked that they learned many of us by name by referring to the picture described above. It is also with sadness that we note there, the faces of those who are no longer with us.

Please be part of this initiative. It forms part of our church story!

## Message from Our Minister

Weddings have been a focus of my ministry over the summer, and as I write this I am preparing for three more weddings – the two in Williamstown being **Lee Klazinga** and **Caroline Millar** on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, and **Jennifer Overbury** and **Jason Robinson** on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Jennifer Overbury and Allison Smart were both members of my first confirmation class in 1997/8. I remember thinking, as I spent time with that group of 10 young women, that I hoped to be in ministry here long enough to do at least one of their weddings. So, now I have to set a new goal – baptisms perhaps??

The imminent celebration, in which we are all invited to share, is the **220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Andrew's United Church, Williamstown**. What a milestone! When this church was established, that was an act of outreach by the Presbyterian Church in Scotland, who sent Rev. John Bethune to minister to the folks here during a time of great struggle and hardship, as those early settlers built lives for themselves here.

Today, we continue in the tradition of outreach to those who are struggling to build lives for themselves. Our guest speaker, the **Hon. Flora MacDonald**, will be speaking of her travels to northern Afghanistan, and the work of the non-governmental organization, *Future Generations*, of which she is chairperson. We will also highlight those in the families of our congregation who are offering their service to the world through the Canadian Forces, including Connor Larkin, who returned this

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summer from Afghanistan, and Pat Power, who left this summer for Afghanistan. May all of the ways in which we reach out to our world make a positive difference.

## Weddings

The bell can ring again! I have spoken to at least three of the “mothers-of-the bride” and all extolled the beauty of the church and surroundings.

**Teresa Gunn & Dan MacDonald** (who live on the Glen Road) were married on June 23, and had their reception in the “Meeting Place” at the fair grounds. Theirs was the first wedding in our sanctuary this year.

On July 28 **Shonna Atchison** married **Tim McCuaig**. If Shonna’s Uncle Robert McDonell can count, Shonna would be the ninth generation of her family with ties to St. Andrew’s, Williamstown. Tim’s family is from the “far-distant-Lancaster township”. Penny (McDonell) and Garry are the parents of Shonna and Tim’s parents are Brian McCuaig and Mary (Koelmans) McCuaig.

On September 1<sup>st</sup> there were two weddings – both in the afternoon.

**Melissa MacCrimmon** married **Steven Tessier**. They were number one on the roster. Parents had a few moments of anxiety when it was realized that the wedding rings had been left behind in Cornwall. Melissa is the daughter of Rollande and Neil MacCrimmon of Williamstown. Melissa and Steven will be living in Embrun. Many of Neil’s family were happy to return to the church they remembered from childhood.

It is reported that a spirit of cooperation prevailed when there might have been a bit of overlapping of guests. I heard that the clever brides also chose to share the beautiful bouquets that decorated the sanctuary.

**Allison Smart** married **Lieutenant Christopher Kroeker** following the above nuptials. Allison is the daughter of Rita and Bill Smart of Williamstown. Bill grew up on his “home” place which many of you know as the Thompson-Bethune House. Allison and Christopher will be living in Trenton (CFB Trenton).

Andrea did two weddings in Williamstown homes, earlier in the spring. **Robin Hurst** and **Leonard Joubert** were married on March 11<sup>th</sup>, and Len died of cancer at the end of July. **Sharon Macdonald** and **Alan Rose** were married on April 7<sup>th</sup> (‘Easter Saturday’), and Sharon died of an aneurysm six weeks later. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Robin and Alan, and their families.

## Choir

The message of new beginnings is being voiced by the choir. (See what happens when we are trapped by clichés – they turn into puns!)

We, who squawk away during hymn-time, are grateful to see the choir chairs filled as this church year begins.

John Hamilton has put out the word of welcome to new (or old) people to join the choir. We can look forward to Sunday’s Anniversary service when the choir will let us hear the anthem they have prepared.

## Waterloo Regional Police Male Chorus:

Talking about the wonders of singing with a choir reminded me of my high school years when friends and I sang in our church choir. I always stood close by one friend who could stay on key!

We met that friend again a few years ago, accompanied now by a husband who really could sing! They invited us to a concert featuring his choir, the Waterloo Regional Police Male Chorus, at Dominion-Chalmers United Church in Ottawa. His choir (the Waterloo Regional Police Male Chorus) was in Ottawa performing on Parliament Hill to honour all Canadian police, men and women, who had died in the line of duty throughout Canada in the previous two years.

Hence our wish to have this Waterloo Male Chorus visit and perform in our church. An historic and beautiful church such as ours was surely as worthy as the great Dominion-Chalmers United on Cooper Street!

Historically we do have a tie – our surround balcony, a feature added in late Victorian times to many Presbyterian churches was a mark of the noted architect Alexander C. Hutchison who designed Dominion-Chalmers.

The **Waterloo Regional Police Male Choir** will perform at **St. Andrew’s United Church** on **September 29** at **7:30 pm**. **Adults \$10 and Children under 10 –free,**

Because of the choir’s association with the Waterloo Regional Police, arrangements for this performance

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were made in conjunction with the S.D. & G Ontario Provincial Police.

A Glengarrian in more ways than one, Constable Matthew Eamer was instrumental in making this concert possible. By the way, welcome back to Glengarry to Tara (MacArthur), Matthew and their family.

Net proceeds from the concert will be used to send young Ontarians to a summer camp that has been established by members of the OPP. All officers involved in the camp program donate their time to help these young people.

Get your tickets at: **1) any Ontario Provincial Police Detachment in S. D. & G.** (Lancaster, Maxville, Alexandria, and Long Sault)

**2) Constable Matt Eamer** at (613) 534 2223

**3) Mac Edwards** at (613) 347 3675

This will be a wonderful evening of amazing music. Please mark it on your calendar.

## Over-the-Summer-Happenings

We have a new roof profile on Irvine Hall. The ramp and door egress has a cover from the elements!

The new vertical support beams seem to cry for decorative ivies, and the lower ramp is asking for a heavy roller to smooth the ravages of construction.

Some improvements can be seen in the kitchen. Fresh paint and new wood enhances our theme of new beginnings. The new exhaust fans

are silent compared to the energetic roar of the old one – protective hearing devices no longer required!

We served eviction notices to our large resident colony of *myotis lucifugus*.



## Rotation Sunday School

Shout from the roof top! **“Welcome back children and leaders”**.

There were eleven students with their faithful leaders, namely, Jennifer Lafave, Edwin Billyk, and Cathy MacKay at church this past Sunday.

The adults of the congregation should be requested to guess the current rotation theme based only on clues provided by whatever strange looking items the children are carrying when church has ended on a Sunday morning.

Last Sunday they were carrying plastic ziplock bags filled with their home-made ice cream. Now what is the current theme for this rotation? The answer is – “transformation”, “change”, and acceptance of others. The Bible story is Paul’s change from persecutor of Christians to a champion of Christianity.

Some magic experiment illustrated Paul’s dark fanatic side by mixing iodine laden water with water containing starch. The blackness was then turned to light by mixing in another jar containing bleach. Such were the object lessons to learn about change and acceptance

of others.

Irvine Hall will be used for the Anniversary celebrations this coming Sunday, September 16, making it necessary for the Sunday School to move their lessons to the park!

## World Community:

To learn from the church school’s lesson on accepting others, we can take note that today, September 12, is the first day of Ramadan. Our daughter Susan has a colleague who educates her about Islam. The comic situations acted out on “Little Mosque on the Prairie” do have some authenticity!

The first appearance of the sun peeping over the earth’s horizon is passed around the world in an amazing network of e-mails and phone calls so that the faithful know when fasting must begin.

Tomorrow, September 13 is the beginning of Rosh Hashanah – to mark ten days that end with Yom Kippur.

I **knew** our Judeo-Christian roots would apply to our Bible readings! It is the Jewish New Year – a time for new beginnings and new resolutions. To quote my resource “this is a time for repentance, forgiveness and settling disputes.”

Who says religions have to divide us?

## Welcome

“Welcome to the manse!” Patti and Andy Briffett. We hope you enjoy your time in Williamstown and when your new home is complete you will visit and worship with us again.