

Twædsmuir Tidings

Twædsmuir Memorial Presbyterian Church
6 John Street, Box 276, Orangeville, ON, L9W 2Z7 • 519-941-1334
www.twædsmuirpresbyterian.org • office@twædsmuirpresbyterian.org



Perspective from the Pulpit

"Glory to God in the highest." (Luke 2:14)

Except from *Our Daily Bread*,
December 25, 2011

During our church's Christmas celebration, I watched the choir members assemble in front of the congregation while the music director rifled through papers on a slim black music stand. The instruments began, and the choir launched into a well-known praise song that started with the words: "Come, now is the time to worship."

Although I expected to hear a time-honoured Christmas carol, I smiled at the appropriateness of the choice of music. Earlier that week, I had been reading the Nativity Story in the Gospel of Luke, and I noticed that the first Christmas was not about parties, feasting and gift giving. It was all about worship. Everyone gathered around the Nativity scene was there to worship the Baby Jesus.

The angels announced Jesus' birth to some very wide-eyed shepherds with a wonderful chorus of a worship song, "Glory to God in the highest!" (Luke 2:13-14). The shepherds responded by running to Bethlehem where they found the newborn King lying in a barnyard bassinet. They returned to their fields worshipping God, "glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard" (v.20). Coming face to face with the Son inspired the shepherds to worship the Father.

Today, consider your response to Jesus' arrival on earth. Is there room for worship in your heart on this day that celebrates His birth?

Have a wonderful Christmas as you worship Heaven's King come down to be our Saviour.

Blessings,
Harvey Self



Christmas Memories

We asked different members of the congregation who were born outside of our area to tell us about their Christmases back home.

Phyllis Robertson – Memories of New Brunswick

In olden day when I was young
Living in Hopewell Cape New Brunswick was so much fun.

My brothers and sisters, there were quite a few
Looked forward to Christmas - we would get something new.

The church Christmas Concert was a big event
We all took part as with Mom and Dad we went.
For Christmas Day we could hardly wait
It was our day to celebrate.

Roast Beef Supper

The Board of Managers sends a huge

Thank you!

to all who helped out at the annual Roast Beef Supper in October. It was a great success!

Christmas Food & Toy Drive

During this Christmas season, the Care Committee will be collecting non-perishable tins of food, unwrapped toys and goods for those less fortunate.



Everything collected will be donated to the Salvation Army's Food and Toy Drive.

Please do your part to help those less fortunate and donate on Saturday, December 10th.

Christmas Memories

Debbie Hunt - Memories of Montreal

When I was a little girl we lived in Montreal.

There was always lots of snow and the snow banks were so high (or seemed to be to me). We would walk along the tops of the snow banks on the side of our road and would be higher than the cars.

On Christmas Eve we would hang our stockings which were our actual socks. My brother would have a big hockey sock and my sister and I would have long winter knee socks.

We would always have an apple or orange in the toe of the sock on Christmas day as well as chocolates and candies.

WELCOME!

Dana Benson is a Knox College student who will be with us until the spring.

Dana and her husband, Randall, (who is the minister of Claude Presbyterian Church on Highway 10), have two children and live in Caledon East.

We welcome Dana and look forward to getting to know her.



Looking for a way to help?

At this time of year, we are looking for people to serve on the two branches of the courts of the church.

Session: over the last few years, our Session numbers have diminished. If you or someone you know would like to serve on the session, please speak with Marjorie MacDonald

Board of Managers: some of the members of the board have reached the end of their terms and would like to retire. If you know someone you think would be good on the Board, please speak with Lynn Ritchie.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If someone's gift is serving let him serve; if it is teaching let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is leadership, let them govern diligently.
Romans 12 6-8

WMS Women's Missionary Society

Evangel Hall Once again, the WMS will be collecting items in December for Evangel Hall. Urgently needed items include, **Sundries:** Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Disposable Razors, Deodorant **Clothing and Footwear:** Blue Jeans, Sweat Pants, Winter Coats, Boots, Running Shoes, New Socks & Underwear

Medical Supplies: Benylin Cough & Cold, Dry Cough Syrup, Vitamin B complex 100, Sore Throat Lozenges, Anti-Fungal Foot Cream, Foot Powder

Youth Supplies: School & Art Materials

Some of the clothing supplies do not have to be new so please check your closets for any items that are gently used.

Pneumonia prevention vests At the end of October, the WMS packed over 400 pneumonia prevention vests along with 100 bonnets and sheets. These were taken to the Guelph WMS to be sent to India for the Bhil people.

The WMS wish to thank everyone who helped with this project.

Christmas Meeting will be held on December 5th at 1:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to attend, please contact Suzanne Rayburn. Everyone is asked to bring a small gift for the "Choices" Christmas stockings.

Christmas Coffee Hour – the WMS will host a special Christmas Coffee Hour after church on Sunday, December 18th. We hope to see you there!



Christmas Memories

Jane Autlman - Memories of England

We always put on a nativity play at our church at Christmas.

Mum would take me to a local store that had a Christmas Wonderland (one whole floor) and we would wait in line for me to visit with Father Christmas and get a present.

Mum would decorate the house with streamers and paper chains and after church on Christmas Eve we would have wonderful homemade goodies.

Then I went to bed and then the magic began. You see, there was no tree before I went to bed. Father Christmas brought it, decorated it, and left my present from him under it! The rest of my presents were in a bolster case at the end of my bed.

Christmas dinner ended with pudding with money in it and you always wanted the sixpence or the shilling.

It was family time and I try to carry on some of those traditions today.

"HONOURING YESTERDAY, CELEBRATING TODAY, LOOKING TO TOMORROW"

175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

We have started our celebrations in a big way. The pew cushion fund organized by the Fellowship Group is now complete and the Pew cushions are now in place.

The Concert by Mark Dubois and his Mark Dubois Studio singers was a great success. The singers were wonderful and it was a beautiful afternoon of music.

The Float in the Orangeville Santa Claus parade and in the Parade of Lights was striking. Thank you to those who built it, decorated it, rode on it (in all sorts of weather), and provided hot chocolate afterwards at the church and especially, those who came out and cheered. It was a wonderful evening and a lot of fun.

The start of many of the planned 175th Anniversary events was the St. Andrew's Pot Luck held on Nov 30th. Those who came out enjoyed an evening of good food, music, dancing, magic, skits and door prizes.

Starting in the New Year there will be the many events including:

- Congregational Breakfasts with great food and speakers. These will be held on Saturdays: Jan. 14, Feb. 11 and March 10 starting at 9:00a.m.
- Movie Night - Wed. Feb. 29 at 7:30 p.m. "The 39 Steps", a Hitchcock production of the novel by John Buchan (also know as Lord Tweedsmuir.)
- Robert Burn's Supper on Jan 21 at 6:00 p.m. with haggis and entertainment
- St. Patrick's Supper and Entertainment March 17th.

For any events which require tickets, visit the kiosk in the fellowship hall on Sunday Mornings.

The Session has commissioned a colour painting of the Church by artist, **C.J. Shelton**. Reproductions of these will be made into notepaper and photos. These will be for sale available from March 2012.

Banners that have been made by church organizations will be hung in the church on Feb. 15th.

Please come out and support these events. This is a time for the Congregation not only to celebrate the past but also to look toward the future of the church.

April/May Celebrations

April 1 – Palm Sunday and

April 8 – Easter Sunday

April 14 – Old Fashioned Afternoon Tea by the WMS

April 15 – "Honouring the Past", Rev. Harvey Self

April 22 – "Celebrating the Present", Rev. Alison Voo

April 29 – "Looking to the Future", Rev. Patrick Gushue

May 5 – Anniversary Dinner at the church

May 6 – 175th Anniversary Service, Rev. Rick Horst,
Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada



Tweedsmuir Ladies Fellowship Group

Christmas Dinner

On December 13th at 6pm, all the ladies of the church are cordially invited to a sit down, catered dinner at the church. If you would like to attend, please advise Phyllis Robertson. Please bring a small gift for Choices Youth Shelter to this meeting. The cost for the dinner is \$16 per person.

If you are interested in joining the Tweedsmuir Ladies Fellowship Group, please contact Phyllis Robertson, 519-941-4181 or come to the Tweedsmuir Room on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

The Christmas Bazaar was a huge success this year. Thanks to all who participated.

For the 175th, Anniversary, the Fellowship Group arranged to have pew cushions installed in the church. The new cushions were in place for the Mark Dubois fundraising and celebration concert held on November 12th, which was a very successful. Mark DuBois, along with his ensemble provided a wonderful performance for all.

The Fellowship would like to thank everyone who contributed to make both the cushion project and the Mark Dubois concert so successful.



Adult Choir – Will be performing a cantata at the service on December 18th. We all look forward to a moving and sacred performance.



Christmas Memories

Tina Ryzebol – Memories of Holland

Christmas in Holland was celebrated differently.

On December 5th, our Clogs were put out in a row beside the wood stove. The clogs were filled with straw and carrots and St. Nicholas came on a white horse.

We received gifts like chocolate and animals made out of sugar. They were small since there was not a lot of money.

On Christmas day, we went to church in the morning and evening. The day after Christmas, December 26th, was called "2nd Christmas Day". On that day we also went to church in the morning and in the afternoon we would have a Sunday School Concert.

Christmas Memories

Betty Franklin – Memories of Newfoundland

I have many fond and amusing memories of Christmas in Newfoundland.

My older sister told me of my first Christmas. I was sleeping in my carriage in front of our fully decorated tree when my brother Joe, in his haste to get under the tree to see what Santa had left for him, managed to topple it over right on top of my carriage! Fortunately, it was a scrawny tree so I was all right.

A number of Christmases later, with Mom and Dad not home, Joe climbed up to the attic space for a quick look around. (He was hoping to get an accordion for Christmas.)

When I came home, I heard accordion music and immediately climbed up to the attic and informed Joe I was telling Mom and Dad as soon as they got home! He quickly looked around until he spied one of my gifts ... a brand new pair of shoes.

So, while he played his accordion, I danced around in my new shoes as if I were a professional tap dancer and no one was any the wiser.



Peace on Earth - Luke 2:14

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Peace with God - Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Emmanuel - Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.

Christmas Memories

Jane Smith – Memories of Scotland & Canada, 1951

After the war, things were very hard in Scotland and we came to Canada in Dec. 1951.

Our boat landed in Halifax and from there we came by train. Through Quebec there was lots of snow and coloured lights on the houses which we had never seen before. There were even sleighs pulled by horses.

On Dec 25th, we arrived at Union Station, Toronto. The first thing we did was to go up to the Main Hall where there was the largest Christmas tree I had ever seen with coloured lights.

People in the News!

Jayne Self – had a reading of her newest book, "Murder in Hum Harbour" at BookLore in October. Many people from the congregation attending this fun event to listen to Jayne read and speak about the writing process.

"Christmas In The Park" Tweedsmuir will once again support the Orangeville Optimist Club's popular "Christmas in the Park" in Kay Cee Gardens for most of December, during the evening hours, 7-10 p.m.

Lyndsay McLean – will be returning home at the end of November. We have heard some details of her trip from her grandmother and look forward to hearing more from her.

Brandon McGilvery – has completed the Australian part of his trip and will now be heading for Russia and Latvia. We wish him well in his endeavours.

Calendar

December

- Dec. 4 – Holy Communion
- Dec. 10 – Toy and Food Drive
- Dec. 11 – Special service with the Youth Group
- Dec. 13 – Women's dinner sponsored by the Fellowship Group
- Dec. 18 – Choir performance
- Dec. 19 – Christmas Sunday Service
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 7 pm - Service of Lessons, Carols and Candlelight
- Dec. 25 – Christmas Service



2012 – 175th Anniversary Year

- Jan. 1 – New Year's Day service 10:15 am
- Jan. 21 – Robbie Burns Dinner
- Feb. 26 – 1st Sunday of Lent
- Lenten Lunches each Wednesday during Lent at Tweedsmuir Church
- Feb. 29 – Movie Night "The 39 Steps"
- Mar. 2 – World Day of Prayer
- Mar. 17 – St. Patrick Day Dinner
- Apr. 1 – Palm Sunday
- Apr. 6 – Good Friday
- Apr. 8 – Easter Sunday
- Apr. 14 – Old Fashioned Afternoon Tea by the WMS
- Apr. 15 – "Honouring the Past", Rev. Harvey Self
- Apr. 22 – "Celebrating the Present", Rev. Alison Voo
- Apr. 29 – "Looking to the Future", Rev. Patrick Gushue
- May 5 – Anniversary Dinner at the church
- May 6 – 175th Anniversary Service, Rev. Rick Horst, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada