

The Vine



Welcome to the sixth edition of the Newsletter!

There have been a lot of changes at the church since our last newsletter.

We said goodbye to Reverend Richard Pitcher and we wish him well. We have welcomed Reverend Ian Martin as our Interim Minister, his wife, Koulla, and daughter, Morgan. Previously, Ian was Curate at St. John's in Kingston.



Next year marks 100 years since laying of the cornerstone of our present church. Let's work together to make our centenary a memorable event.

Sadly, a number of our congregation passed on in 2011.

Bill Armstrong: 1922 - 2011

Bill was born in Toronto in 1922 growing up as one of seven children during the great depression. Financial limitations and the outbreak of

World War II prevented him from following his dream of being an aeronautical engineer. He enlisted with the RCAF and decided that flying airplanes was even better.

Before being posted overseas he married Joan, his high school sweetheart. From 1941-44 he flew 'Bomber Command' out of North Africa. His tour home was via Australia to San Francisco by sea. He continued to fly for the RCAF in Canada being part of the group that delivered equipment to the Far North for the installation of the DEW Line (Early Warning System).

Bill joined Air Canada upon discharge. He had a long and distinguished career as Captain, Instructor, Check Pilot and Test Pilot on aircraft from the DC3 to the 747.



Bill was a devout Anglican who served his God and his church for many years. He was Rector's Warden at St. Phillips, Weston for several years. On moving to Picton in 1984 he soon became an active member of St. Mary Magdalene serving on the Parish Council, Property Committee and as chief dishwasher for the Kitchen Crew.

Bill and Joan had three children and were able to travel extensively over the years. They had celebrated 56 years of wedded bliss when Joan passed away.

Bill had many talents. He taught all his kids to swim, skate, ride bicycles, play baseball and cut the grass! He was a skilled woodworker, home handyman, gardener, cake baker and bridge player (a skill he mastered at age 75!).

He loved his family, a good joke, and especially his grandsons and his namesake great-grandson. He reveled in their successes and exploits and kept in touch with them right up to his passing.

A gentleman, a scholar, and a wonderful man. He will be sorely missed. R.I.P.

Linda Dundas (Bill's daughter)

A copy of the Eulogy given by Andrew Dundas (Bill's grandson) at Bill's funeral is available on request from the Church Office

Elaine Jeffery: 1952 - 2011

When I was asked to write about Elaine, I wasn't sure I could do it. "Just write about what she did" I was told. OK, I could do that. But, then, I realized that writing about what Elaine did didn't say anything about who she was as my friend.

What did Elaine do? God gave her some amazing gifts. She was an incredible seamstress, creating wedding dresses and everyday outfits for people. She also sewed some of the items that we have hanging in God's house today. She made the costumes for our children's Christmas play and she had almost completed a new banner for our Sunday School. She cooked – oh my, could she cook!

Did you need something for a bake sale? No problem. And if you were lucky enough to be invited to her home for a meal, be sure not to eat



ahead as you would be treated to a feast fit for a king. Lots of people stayed for coffee after the early service when Elaine provided treats! She worked hard on our Altar Guild and brought her gifts to Parish Council. She gave her time to organizations beyond our Church such as Ten Thousand Villages, her sailing organization and, even after she retired from work in the lab at the hospital, she continued working with her local union to support the staff with whom she had worked with so many years.

Those are some of things Elaine did. Does that tell you who she was? I don't think so; let me tell you a little about who she was to me. God made a joyful and sensitive person when he created Elaine; she always noticed when someone wasn't themselves, and wondered how she could "make it better". Many a time she would ask me "do you know if so and so is OK? They just don't seem to be themselves". If I phoned and just needed to 'vent a little', she dropped whatever she was doing and listened. After my husband died, Elaine refused to let me sit in the house, and now I have friends who I would never have met if it had not been for her. If I, or anyone else, was going through a difficult time, Elaine usually sensed something and figured it out before we knew it ourselves. My job, last year, was the worst I ever had and she was there whenever I needed to talk; without her support, I'm not sure I would have survived the year. She was always there with a kind word, a shoulder or a cup of coffee -whatever was needed. That was her way with everyone.

Elaine loved her family and her friends dearly, and was protective of both. She loved all of us in spite of our little idiosyncrasies. If she thought we needed to hear a harsh truth, we could trust her to find a way to be honest with us without hurting us.

God showed his love for us, through her, on a daily basis. Her boundless love for God, her family and her friends made knowing her a joy. It is said that people come and go in our lives as we need them. I will always be grateful that Elaine came into mine and I hope that many of you feel the same way.

Elaine Phillip



Rector's Corner

Beginnings

My family and I would like to say thank you to the Parish of St. Mary Magdalene. Koulla, Morgan and I have been lovingly welcomed into the parish and we are thankful for the warm reception, hospitality and gracious joy that we have felt and enjoyed these last few months. Again, from the entire Martin clan a heartfelt and genuine thank you to the St. Mary Magdalene parish family.



This is my first parish and the first Pastor's column I have ever had the privilege of writing, and it struck me that I didn't know where to start, or what to write about. After all, it is a dangerous thing to give a minister an open space to speak or write in. Who knows how long he could ramble on for!

Upon reflection, I think the best place to start is with where we find ourselves in this season of Advent. At the beginning of his Gospel, Mark tells us clearly that he is writing about "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (Mark 1:1) Perhaps this should be our starting point too.

The season of Advent is about preparing ourselves, once again, to let Christ completely into our hearts, our minds and our lives. The preparation is already underway. We all know Christ is coming, and with him comes a new beginning for everyone. This is the church's starting point, and it should be ours also.

lan+

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments" answered the lady.

Milestones

Baptisms

Benjamin Anthony Donald Pound on 1 May.

Marriages:

Emily Alkenbrack and Jason Miles (both of Napanee) on 20 August.

Leah McGee and Tyler Bond on 22 October. Tyler is Marjorie Pearsall's grandson.

Passings:

Marguerite Eugene Le Heup, aged 97, on 11 December 2010.

Lillian Violet Farrar, aged 87, mother of Josie, on 5 february 2011.

Frederick Ronald Watts, aged 80, On 15 March.

Deborah Michele Norton, aged 61, on 10 April. Interment Cherry Valley Cemetery.

Angus Nicholls Mackay, aged 72, on 11 April. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

Marguerite Haddon, aged 92, on 26 May. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

Elizabeth Anne (Betty) Brooker, aged 91, on 2 June. Interment St. Paul's Anglican Cemetery, Roslin.

Anna (Annie) Hill, aged 97, on 9 July. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

Margaret Elizabeth (Betty) Wattam, aged 95, on 5 August. Interment Glenwood.

Keith Alexander Van Vlack, aged 77, on 16 August. Interment Rose Cemetery.

Evelyn Elaine Jeffery, aged 59, on 2 September. Interment Cherry Valley Cemetery.

George Donald (Don) Andrews, aged 88, on 2 October.

William (Bill) Irvine Armstrong, aged 89, 7 October. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

Avis Melrose Foster, aged 93, on 10 October. Interment Cherry Valley.

Dora Bond, aged 102, On 13 November. Interment Rest Haven, Toronto.

Margaret Hierlihy, aged 92, on 18 November. Interment Elmwood, Ottawa.

Memorial Service:

For Marguerite Le Heup, on 20 May followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Interment Glenwood Cemetery.

Ain't We Got Fun!!

There was music, there was singing, there was clapping, there was dancing. Yes, the Spirit was definitely present as we helped the October birthday folks celebrate their birthday in style.

Once a year St. Mary Magdalene hosts a birthday party for the residents at The McFarland Home for the Aged. This year we honoured those people whose birthday was in October. This event is part of our community outreach. Thanks to the generous donations from members of our parish family, we purchase a birthday cake and bouquets for the birthday people.



There was a wonderful turnout from the residents. We had lots of help from members of St. Mary Magdalene and a friend from St. Andrew's, Wellington, who helped serve cake and refreshments. Our own Joyful Noise group was on hand to provide well-know tunes for a lively sing-a-long which everyone enjoyed. As well, we were excited to welcome our interim priest, the Rev. Ian Martin, who came out to help with the celebrations in the midst of his busy introduction into the life of our Parish. One of the highlights of the event is the special time the residents and volunteers have to sit and visit with one another.

This is a ministry to which God calls us. We thank God that it is one we respond to with joyful and generous hearts.

Fran Langlois, Vocational Deacon

p.s. While I was visiting at McFarland Home recently, the husband of one of the residents told me he was at the Joyful Noise pub night on November 23rd. He said our group is the best. He told me that we look to be having so much fun and the residents have a lot of fun too. He enjoys watching the faces of the residents. He really praised us - the music was great, fun time, happy experience for everyone.

Two Very Different Works of Art

What to make of the two very different works of art now on display in the church? Who better to explain them than the artist himself.

The Crucifixion in the Side Chapel brings together two images: a cloudscape near Mountainview airfield and a hand-held Oberammergau wooden cross. The first prefigured the second. In painting it, I hoped to convey a sense of guided forward movement as captured in that marvelous phrase of Charles Wesley's "Forth in Thy name, Oh Lord, I go". I also wanted to suggest that beyond the cross and death lie new life and resurrection. It is essentially a hopeful piece.

The second piece, hanging in the Church Hall and called simply "Reformation" took 18 months to build from conception to completion. What is it? First and foremost, it is an offering: an offering to the glory of God, our creator. It is also a visual prayer. A prayer that the Church will continue to reform itself over time in response to changing needs and conditions; reform its structures, liturgies and theology; adapt and change while remaining true to the central message of the Gospel. It is also a silent hymn, expressing visually the music that played in my mind as I worked on the piece; the quiet, insistent, minimalist music of John Taverner and Arvo Part. The scale of the piece is intended to suggest a great expanse of time, and the many threads that traverse the piece, voices raised to God across the ages. I can't end without acknowledging the inspiration I drew from the minimalist art of Agnes Martin and others like her.

While I could say much more about each piece, I won't because I would much rather that you find your own meaning in the pieces. Please corner me and have a conversation. I would welcome the opportunity to chat.

Andrew Innes

With Eyes Of The Heart: Welcome to the Conversation

Parishioner Andrew Innes and Karen Dukes, a friend of St. Mary Magdalene, invite you to become part of a conversation. Andrew, an artist, and Karen, a poet, are planning an interactive event linking human creativity and the life of the human spirit. Creativity is one of the ways in which all people are made in the image of the Creator and able to reflect God's image to the world. But how many of us realize that and take joy in our own creative gifts? Whether you have a knack for woodworking, writing, painting, cooking, raising children, or gardening, your creative work matters.

To explore this further, we are planning a Saturday event about 12 months from now when you and the wider community, will be invited to hear from artists of all sorts about how their work is influenced by and reflects their spiritual lives. There will be works of art, sculpture, and writing on display throughout the church and hall. You will be able to converse with the artists and to view the exhibits.

So that this becomes a true St. Mary Magdalene event, we want to hear from you about the possibilities you see in such a day and how you see your own creative work, whatever it may be. In the next few months we hope to meet with as many of you as possible. Bishop Michael, your interim priest, and the wardens all support this initiative. As clear plans develop we will keep you informed. We are looking forward with excitement to discovering how our Creator meets us all in our planning.

Andrew Innes and Karen Dukes

Our Daughter Brenda

We thought that members of the congregation might be interested to hear that our daughter Brenda has been accepted for ordination as a postulant in the Diocese of Niagara.

Eleven years ago Brenda entered Trinity College to study for her Master of Divinity Degree. Upon graduation she spent a busy year as a Chaplain at Sunnybrook Hospital, and continuing her studies. After Sunnybrook she was a part-time Chaplain for Trillium Hospital in Mississauga, and a Lay Pastoral Associate at St. George's on the Hill in Toronto. She gained pastoral experience, and guided and instructed the Youth Group.

In 2008 she led the group on a trip to New York City, Dubai, and finally to Tanzania in Africa. While in Africa they helped children in the classroom. School supplies were very limited so Brenda and her group donated paper, pencils, and other materials. After three weeks with the children, Brenda took her group on a tour of the country, which included safaris and sight seeing (Mount Kilimanjaro).

After two years, Brenda left St. George's to concentrate on completing more credits towards her Chaplaincy. Two years ago she accepted the position of Lay Pastoral Associate at St. Cuthbert's Church in Oakville, where she still worships.

Brenda is currently awaiting instruction from Bishop Michael Bird of Niagara, for the next steps required for ordination. The service will be held at Christ Church Cathedral in Hamilton. When we know the date for her ordination we will pass it along. We are very proud of her.

Bob and Joan Mercer

Read and Rejoice: 2011

- Another successful **Pancake Supper** was held on Shrove Tuesday 8 March. Over 80 people were served and \$360 was raised.
- On 26 May, the three Anglican parishes of Prince Edward County hosted the **Seniors Service** in the church followed by a **luncheon** in the hall which was well attended by residents and their helpers from the The County's nursing and retirement homes.
- In the Spring, a **donation** of \$750 was given to **Hospice Prince Edward**.
- An **organ concert** was performed by Bill Maddox (a former organist at StMM) and his young student, Duncan MacDonald on 30 May. Duncan practiced regularly at St Mary Magdalene before leaving to continue his studies at McGill University this fall. Proceeds went towards our Centennial Fund.
- **The Strawberry Social and Bake Sale** held in the Parish Hall on June 25 raised almost \$2000 for the church.
- **Festival of St. Mary Magdalene** was celebrated on July 25. The service was followed by a potluck lunch in the hall.
- A **donation** of \$500 was given **to the ROC** (Recreation Outreach Centre) in July to sponsor 8 children at their summer camp.
- New light-weight, **red gowns** were purchased for the **choir members** with funds from the Memorial account.
- **Port Milford Summer Music Festival** performed four string quartet concerts in the church July 22 to August 12 and a student string quartet and choral concert on August 13.
- The annual **Jazz Service** was held on August 21. It was great to have the church full of people (well over 300) and music (provided by the Brian Barlow Trio, the church choir and the congregation). We were thrilled to have Bishop Michael Oulton lead the service.
- We now sit in comfort on our new **pew cushions** which arrived in August. These were purchased from Memorial funds in memory of Elaine Jeffery.
- New **audio-visual equipment** including two retractable screens was installed in the front of the church, with funds provided from bequests from the Harry Young and Marguerite Haddon estates.
- **PEC Music Festival** held 5 classical music concerts in the church September 17 to 24.

- Food and help for the “**Loaves and Fishes**” lunch held on September 28 in the Salvation Army Hall was provided and served by members of St. Mary Magdalene. This lunch is prepared by a different organization once a month and is free to anyone who wishes to attend.
- A **donation** of \$100 was given to **Youth for Christ** towards a christian concert held at the County Youth Park.
- Two very different **works of art** by Andrew Innes (a member of our congregation) are on long term display in the church (see Article in this newsletter).
- The County **Food Bank** continues to receive many hundreds of dollars of non-perishable food and toiletry items from St. Mary Magdalene.
- The transformation of the **Parish Hall** has continued throughout the year. The foundation has been completely waterproofed - no more floods! Now the basement can be upgraded with new paint and flooring. The stairs from the church up to the hall were rebuilt.
- We continue to collect **postage stamps** for OXFAM, **tabs** from soft drink (and beer) cans for a children's wheelchair charity, **Campbell's soup can labels** for Sunrise Christian Academy and **toiletries** for Alternatives for Women.
- New **oak and glass church doors** are being donated by John Le Heup in memory of his parents, Marguerite and John (Jack), both long-time parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene.
- A **donation** of of \$120 was given to the **Children's Aid Angel Campaign**

Festival of Trees Bake Sale

Thank you to all our St. Mary Magdalene helpers who supported so well again this yearly event as part of our outreach. Proceeds from the Bake Table, which go to our Hospital Auxiliary to support and help our hospital, were \$1625.83. WOW!

Our heartfelt thanks to those who:

- worked at the sale and for all their lovely baked goods
- brought in delightful baked goodies for the sale
- donated the wonderful “yummy” pickles and preserves
- made cash donations
- did the phoning lists

Well done, everyone!

Barb Ansell and Sheila Wedekamm

A Grand Piano for St. Mary Magdalene

While the pipe organ has traditionally been the main instrument in church sanctuaries, the piano is another wonderful way to bring God's message and our praises in song. It is becoming more common, in fact, for pianos to be used in worship music. The piano allows for more musical variety in our worship, and being physically closer to the congregation, the music can become a more intimate experience for us all.

The acoustics of our church are arguably the best in The County, and our space is already used for musical performances. With the addition of a concert grand piano, St. Mary Magdalene will become the focal point for many more musical events and attract more musicians to our outstanding space.

Next year (2012) is the centenary of our church building. As one centennial project, Parish Council has endorsed the idea of acquiring a grand piano for the church. A group of people has been working hard to raise funds for this and numerous donations have already been received, many from outside the church. The music group 'Four Play' (Josie Farrar, Michael Goodwin, Maryl and Ernie Neufeld) has held two fund raising concerts. The PEC Music Festival Organization is willing to provide a sizeable annual donation to help pay for and maintain an instrument. As the centenary of the church comes around, we expect to have many concerts and celebratory events, many of which would feature a concert grand piano.

With our new pew cushions, lighting and audio-visual equipment, we have a beautiful space to worship God and a well-furnished performance space for the wider community to use.

Michael Goodwin



Church Centenary

Next year, 2012, marks 100 years since the laying of the cornerstone of the present church. The building was actually completed and the first service held in 1913. As this is a major milestone, many events, concerts and other activities are envisioned in celebration.

We look forward to hearing ideas and suggestions to make our centenary memorable.

Worship Services

Sunday	9:00 and 10:30 am
Wednesday	10:00 am
Fridays 2, 9, 16 December	Advent Services Friday 4.30 pm
December 18	Festival of Lessons and Carols 10.30 am
Christmas Eve	4.30 pm Family Service 7.00 pm Carol Sing 7.30 pm Choral Celebration
Christmas Day	10.00 am
New Year's Day	10:00 am Choral Morning Prayer

Upcoming Events

Seniors' Christmas Service and Tea at Kentwood Park 2.00 pm
Tuesday December 13

Lattimer Bible discussion group: 2.00 pm first and third Thursday
in the Library

Men's Breakfast: 8:00 am last Friday of the month at The Waring
House

Magdalena's Potluck Lunch for the women of the Parish: 12:00
noon last Friday of the month in the Parish Hall.

This newsletter was produced by the St. Mary Magdalene Communications
Committee

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