

The St. David's Connection

Quarterly Newsletter



St. David's
Presbyterian
Church

98 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's
Newfoundland
Telephone 722.2382
www.stdavids.nf.ca

2003
SUMMER ISSUE



From the Minister ...

Rev. Sandy Wessel

"And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, 'you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"
(Acts 1: 4 & 5)

Waiting is one of the hardest things in the world to do for most people, but that seems to be what most people do beginning in our babyhood. First the wee one waits to be picked up, changed, cuddled, or fed. Then the tiny one waits to crawl and then walk – however impatiently.

Witness any little one bouncing up and down eagerly attempting to be out of the playpen or crib. Why you'll even see them hoist a chubby, too short leg, to try to breach the rails or netting. Then put them on a blanket on the floor ... just how long do they stay on it? Do they wait for us to teach them to roll, crawl, and then walk? No. They usually figure it out all by themselves. From that moment onward, we are ever scurrying to keep two paces ahead of them – and sometimes it feels like they are the ones who are two paces ahead of us – especially when they reach the teenage years!

How often do we hear ourselves say the phrase, "I just can't wait till they grow out of this stage!"?

But the time flies very fast! Before we know it, the children are getting married and having our grandchildren. Then if God blesses the years, we see great grandchildren. But all through that time, we have had to wait for one thing or another.

Jesus commanded the disciples to remain in Jerusalem and to wait. He uttered those words of promise just before his ascension into heaven. With them, he gave to those gathered in the upper room the promise of the Holy Spirit whom they would receive while they waited in Jerusalem.

But waiting wasn't something the disciples were very good at doing. Scripture tells us that while they did wait in the city, praying and worshiping in the Temple, they also made the major decision to replace Judas Iscariot with Matthias and they did this before they had received the Holy Spirit to guide them. That simple action was void of fruit. Never again do we hear of Matthias in the life and work of the early church. This man who was supposed to replace Judas as an apostle to help carry the message to the far flung corners of the world, is never heard of again. Why? I believe it was because the disciples made one simple error – they didn't wait for the Holy Spirit to guide them.

Many years later, Jesus instructed a man named Ananias to anoint a man named Saul to be the Apostle to the Gentiles. Today we know him as Paul the Apostle. I believe, this man was God's choice to replace Judas. It took God several years to get Saul ready to assume the tasks God had for Paul to do. But the disciples had been impatient, so they didn't wait on God's timing. They rushed ahead of God and the decision they took never bore fruit. But God's choice established churches throughout the entire Mediterranean world. You can read all about it in the book of Acts.

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Why not take your Bible along on your summer holidays. The Book of Acts make very lively, fascinating reading – especially if you read it in a modern translation. I recommend the RSV, NRSV, NIV, TEV, Living Bible, and the Message. All are good translations or paraphrases and get the message across in a very understandable and readable fashion. So, enjoy, Acts makes great reading!

Weddings

Roxanne Melendy and David Hancock – May 24, 2003 at St. David's. Roxanne is the daughter of Nowell and Evelyn Melendy of this congregation.

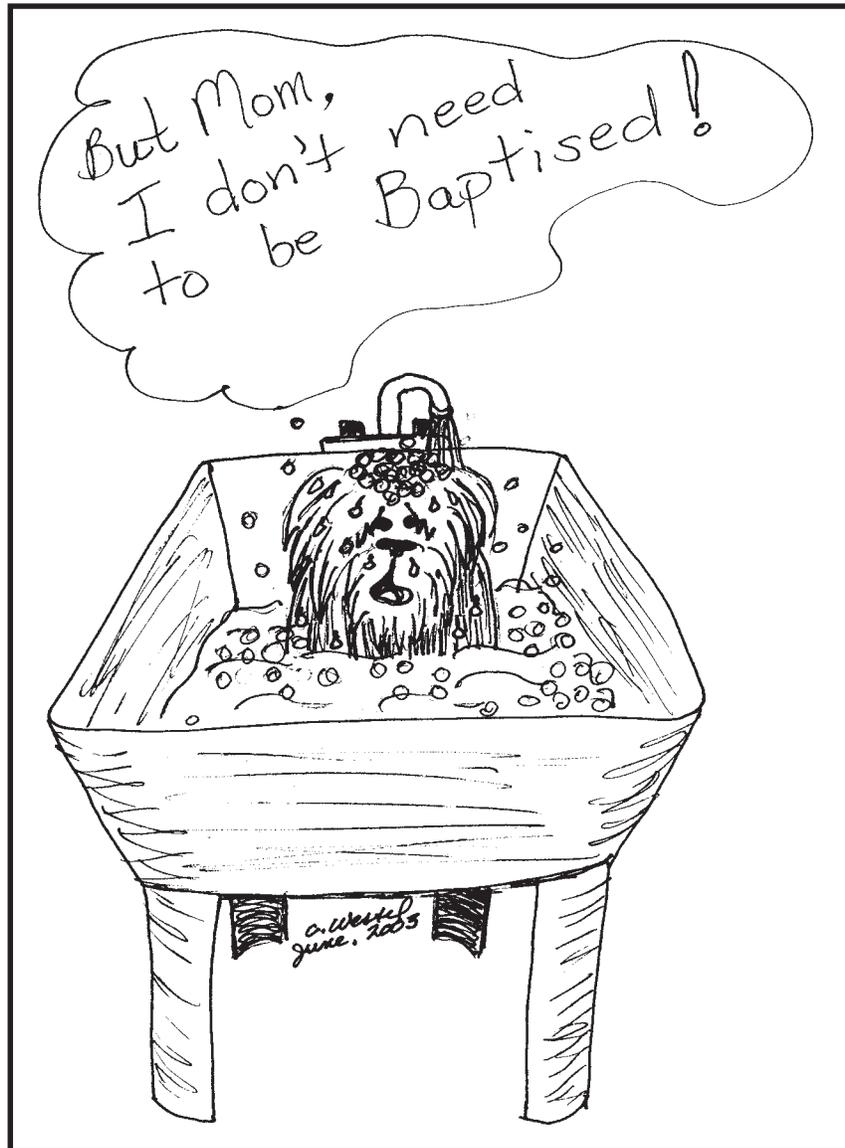
Catherine Picco and Donald Dinn were married at St. Andrew's Church, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia on May 31, 2003.

Births

Born to April Cumming and Tom Kennedy on May 16, 2003 a son, **Jack Martin**, weighing 7 lb. 9 oz. A brother for Cameron and Alexander.

The Editorial Committee wishes to thank all those who contributed items for this edition of The St. David's Connection and we encourage you to continue to do so. Feel free to drop items or notes off anytime to members of the Newsletter Committee listed below, or leave them in the Church mailbox.

- Jean Bruneau 722-6436
- Lillian Crawford 754-2362
- Neil Ellis 722-0992
- Judy Rudofsky 726-3184



SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2003 – AUGUST 31, 2003 INCLUSIVE

St. David's – 10:00 A. M.

St. Andrew's – 11:15 A. M.

Check out St. David's on the Web



www.stdavids.nf.ca

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

✂ Congratulations to Eva & Murdo Martin who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26, 2003!

✂ Gracie & Joss Wood would like to thank Rev. Sandy Wessel and friends of St. David's for their prayers, get well cards, phone calls, visits and support during Joss's operations. Thanks so much, your kindness will never be forgotten.

✂ Blake Rudofsky is attending the 129th Presbyterian Church of Canada annual General Assembly in Guelph, Ontario this week as the Young Adult Representative for St. David's Church. They have a full slate of meetings, as well as many other planned activities. It will be a good opportunity for Blake to report on our youth group and also to hear about the work and witness of other youth groups across Canada. May God bless all the delegates, young and old alike, as they plan for the future work of our church in Canada and abroad.

✂ Wedding bells will ring for Michael Templeton and Jessica Robinson at 3 PM in the Knox College Chapel, Toronto, on Saturday, 23 August 2003. They will reside in Toronto where Michael will continue studies towards his Ph. D. in Engineering at the University of Toronto. Jessica will pursue graduate studies in Music after her convocation at U of T on June 9th. She will attend vocal institutes this summer at St. Andrew's by the Sea and in Calgary.

✂ Alex Templeton graduated from Memorial University with a

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science on Wednesday, May 28th. He will continue his studies in September in the Faculty of Law at the University of New Brunswick, Fredericton. Alex is engaged to Vanessa Elliott, and they plan a summer wedding in 2004.

✂ Karen Templeton is studying Early Childhood Education at Lawrence College, and was named to the college Honour Roll for both fall and winter term examinations, having achieved an average of marks over 90%. Her studies continue through the summer and next year. Way to go!!

✂ The Templetons will welcome members of Sue's immediate family for a reunion at their home in early July. Ken's niece, Sarah, will be married in St. John's on July 19th Another big family celebration!!! Then, a Toronto holiday for Michael's wedding will cap off a summer of family fun!

✂ We are pleased to report that Christina Shalaby will represent St. David's at Canada Youth 2003 which takes place August 19 - 24 at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. The theme of the five-day conference is "On the Edge of the Wave".

✂ Jean Bruneau recently attended the 75th anniversary of the founding of the high school she attended in Toronto (many years ago). Part of the week long celebration was the opening of a Gallery of Distinction to recognize former students who have

"achieved outstanding success in their career and who have made a significant contribution to their profession, their community or their country". Jean was inducted as a member in the inaugural ceremony. Bravo, Jean!

✂ Best wishes to Tim Loomis as he prepares to enter a national science competition. Tim, age 16, is one of a dozen finalists in the Aventis Biotech Challenge, a biotechnology competition involving high school students in Canada. He is a grade 10 student at Mount Pearl Senior High and has been pursuing his research project, investigating the potential health-giving properties of Chamomile, for over two years. His presentation will take place via teleconference from the Marine Institute, MUN, and he admits to being a little nervous! Tim is an active member of our Youth Group and the son of Valerie & Chris Loomis. Good luck, Tim, in this competition and your future research!

✂ At the Spring 2003 Convocation of Memorial University of Newfoundland, degrees were conferred on the following members of our congregation:

Lori-Kim den Otter

Master of Philosophy

Allison Crawford

Bachelor of Commerce (Co-Operative)

Laura Denness

Bachelor of Arts

Alex Templeton

Bachelor of Arts (Honours)

Robert Tennent

Bachelor of Business Administration

Dr. Alison Tennent



Dr. Alison Tennent recently went to Zimbabwe to practice as a physician in the Salvation Army's Howard Hospital there for a few months.

Alison is the daughter of Dr. Donald and Kay Tennent. She took her medical degree at Memorial University and then went on to specialize in obstetrics and gynecology. Alison always displayed an interest in practicing medicine in underdeveloped and underprivileged countries. During her training she spent time in Thailand and India. After she finished training she worked in Saskatchewan and Toronto and took time out to obtain a diploma in tropical medicine from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

At the Howard Hospital, some 300 patients per day are seen, either in a relatively large adult outpatients unit or separate maternal child health clinics. The hospital has 144 beds and also includes a nurses' training

school. Patients come from the 100,000 peasant farmers, commercial farm and mine workers in the immediate area. Howard Hospital is also a designated District Hospital. This means that other patients are referred from hospitals in a larger area encompassing a population of 250,000. The people are poor on a scale barely imaginable in this country.

The senior physician is Dr Paul Thistle who has practiced there for eight years, at times single-handed. His family is from Newfoundland. Alison says he is the most dedicated physician she has ever encountered.

The hospital runs on a budget that would be considered miniscule by Canadian standards, and many of the drugs and much of the equipment taken for granted here are either not available or only available sporadically. Volunteers like Alison come from time to time and there is a local Zimbabwean doctor. The majority of patients are seen and treated by

nurses who then refer some of these patients to the doctors. Right now there are two nurses from Norway, one from the Netherlands, and a Canadian pharmacist volunteering.

Over a third of the patients have HIV-related diseases. A conservative estimate puts about 25% of the adult population as HIV positive. Tuberculosis of various forms is common, as are skin diseases. Twice a month there is a TB clinic as part of a national program. Diabetes, hypertension and sexually transmitted diseases are on the rise. Tropical diseases are, however, slowly disappearing, and many are seasonal. For instance, it is only during the rainy season that malaria becomes a problem. It is often deadly when it strikes those already weakened by HIV. Horrifyingly, the average life expectancy in Zimbabwe is thirty-nine years.

St. David's applauds Alison and wishes her well in her demanding, but rewarding, medical and humanitarian work.

A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

Festival 500 – Sharing the Voices 2003

St. John's is once again hosting this great international choral festival and St. David's has asked to host one of the choirs at our Sunday Service on July 6th. We were privileged to welcome the Mendosa Children's Choir of Argentina in 1997, the National Youth Choir of Canada in 1999, and the Amabile Boys & Mens Choir of Ontario in 2001. We are scheduled to have the Vu Vu Gospel Choir from Angola, Africa

here this year. We understand that there are nineteen (19) adults in this choir. They are scheduled to arrive in St. John's in late June, however conditions in Angola are very unstable and there may be changes in their plans. They have tried to attend Festival 500 twice before but were not permitted to leave their country. We hope, and pray, that all goes well for them this time and we can welcome them here.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Dini den Otter, Session Rep. on the C. E. Team.

On Sunday, June 1, the St. David's Sunday School celebrated the end of Another successful year with presentations to and by the children, teachers and assistants. The success of our Sunday School is the result of dedicated work by many individuals whose jobs were made enjoyable by the guidance of Sue Templeton as Superintendent. Sue has faithfully and lovingly fulfilled this role for many years and finding someone else to take on this monumental task has proved to be impossible. For this

reason the Christian education of our children will now be administered by a team of people. So far several individuals have agreed to fill various roles on the C. E. team, i.e. treasurer, registrar, supplier/buyer, musician, curriculum planner and teacher training. Vacancies still exist for a special events co-ordinator and the C. E. Team co-ordinator. The team co-ordinator's main responsibility is communicating between teachers, church office, Minister and congregation. We know there are people who are willing and able to fill these

jobs and we ask the help of all parents, elders and other members of the congregation to help us find them. Also, if you are willing to teach a class on a part-time basis in the fall, please let us know now. More dads would be a wonderful asset to the C. E. Team.

To Sue we say again, thank you for your many years of service to the children and youth of St. David's. We wish you continued success in your studies.

Vietnam Experience

Aubrey & Eleanor Bonnell

January 2003 saw our elder son, Steve, and his wife Denise leave for Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, where they have been transferred for the next two years. It was with mixed feelings that we saw them leave – sad that they would be so far away, but pleased that they both had done well professionally, and that this had led them to new and exciting experiences. We promised we would visit for the month of April, and made plans to fly via Hong Kong, to Ho Chi Minh.

through the airport. Only passengers are permitted in the airport, no visitors. We found our way to the exit, and outside was a crowd that would put Christmas at Torbay Airport to shame – hundreds of people all crowding around waiting .. Luckily Steve, at over 6 ft. stood far above the average Vietnamese, and we had no trouble finding him and Denise and the taxi that was waiting to take us to their home.

has 7 million people, over a million of whom ride mopeds or mini-bikes, all of whom came out to meet us the first time we tried to cross a street! However, we were warned, watch out for cars, then walk slowly and steadily and the bikes will watch out for you. It works. The bikes and their riders are interesting. The term 'four passenger Honda' refers to four people – often parents with children or infants – all on the same bike.

Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon,

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March saw the SARS virus in Hong Kong and we had grave concerns about traveling through there. We were ready to cancel, but with help from our Travel Agent we left on March 31 for the first leg of our trip to Vietnam via Tokyo, which was SARS free.

After two days of flying we arrived in Ho Chi Minh around 10 pm on April 2, and after clearing a stern Army officer in Immigration, proceeded

2003 FLOWER SERVICES

Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Hamilton Avenue Extension

Monday, July 7, 2003 – 7:00 P.M.

General Protestant Cemetery, Topsail Road

Monday, July 28, 2003 – 7:00 P.M.

In the event of inclement weather, services will move ahead to 7:00 P.M. the next evening. This applies to both services.

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Bikes are delivery vans – we saw furniture being carried by a passenger as well as cooking utensils and other appliances. Pale skin is favored by females, so they wear hats and colourful cloth masks to shade their faces, and long evening gloves in every possible shade to cover their bare arms from the sun while riding.

Ho Chi Minh is the economic capital of Vietnam, while Hanoi is the government capital. It is a busy city, but has not yet reached the twentieth century. There are still street stalls, many of which serve food, which is cooked and served to patrons who squat on little stools to eat on the sidewalk, and the streets are still swept by persons with twig brooms. It is modernizing without Westernizing, and at its own speed. The only North American chain is Colonel Sanders, who seems to operate next to bowling alleys. There is an ex-pat community of mostly Australians and Dutch, with some Europeans and North Americans and they see that there are indeed good future economic prospects in Vietnam. They are working with the Vietnamese to aid in this development. The Communist Government encourages outside investment in the economic expansion in Ho Chi Minh and one is not aware of being in a Communist country. One of our guides remarked, “The Red Collars (i.e. army who have red collars on their uniforms) are turning pink in Ho Chi Minh.”

Our second week Steve, through his office, had a trip arranged for us. We flew to central Vietnam to Hue, which had been the Ancient Capital and were met by our own car, driver and guide. Quoc, our guide was outstanding. His excellent English and

knowledge of the area added to our enjoyment. We saw the Citadel and tombs of the Kings, and sailed up the Perfume River on a Dragon boat to the Thien Mu Pagoda. We learned that Pagodas are to worship Buddha and Temples are to worship one’s ancestors. Vietnam is 90% Buddhist and 10% Catholic. From there we drove through beautiful countryside, through fields of rice and lotus blossoms, also some less than modern villages, but always with a thriving open air market, and then wound our way up the mountains and down the other side to Da Nang and on to Hoi Ahn, an ancient fishing city that was a centre for craftspeople. Today it is the place to purchase beautiful silks. We saw the silk process from the silkworm to final product, some of which we purchased.

Da Nang is famous as the place where the USA troops landed in the 1960s War. There are very few signs of the war there, the occasional blackened bunker or a farmer driving down the road in what had been an army jeep is all that remains. The Vietnamese people hold no animosity to the Americans, or to any race. They are a most peaceful, contented, and gentle people. This is amazing, for as Quoc explained to us, they have a history of constant wars, going back to Tribal wars, then the Cham Tribe, the Chinese, Thailand, French, and their own many North-South wars, one of which became the infamous conflict of the 1960-70s. No wonder they are not as far ahead as other Asian countries.

We also saw the more modern cities of Na Trang, which is like any beach city in Florida, and Dalat, which is up in the mountains in the pine forests. Dalat was originally colonized by the French for the coffee plantations, and shows the French influence in

architecture – and wonderful breads. It is known as the City of Flowers, and is aptly named. Many Vietnamese go there for holidays as it is cooler. It was only 30 degrees there, while it went to 40 in Ho Chi Minh! April is just before the rainy season, and is the hottest time.

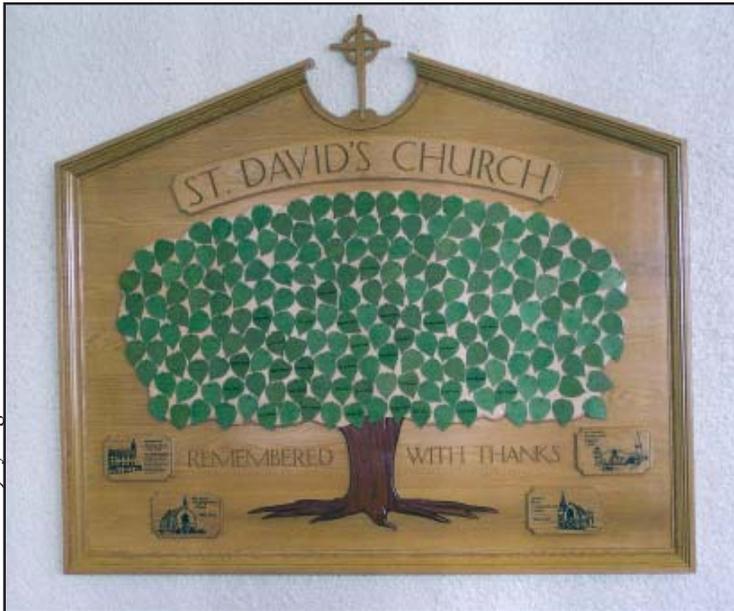
We had many experiences during our visit, some of which were a bit disturbing, such as the War Remnants Museum; other were fascinating like the Cu Chi Tunnels, 250 km of underground tunnels from which the V C carried out guerrilla warfare against the USA; and interesting, as in the many wonderful restaurants that served all types of food, and all contributed to helping us recognize a culture so different from ours. We also spent three days in Cambodia exploring the Temples of Ankor, a breathtaking experience. This also helped us realize that the Cambodians are not like the South Vietnamese, who are not like the North Vietnamese, who are not like the Chinese etc. Caucasians tend to think of them as the same, but they are different with very different cultures. That in itself was one of the valuable lessons we learned.

We plan to return to Vietnam in late 2004, and look forward to experiencing more of that beautiful country and its wonderful people.



Summer

The Memorial Tree of Life



Picture courtesy of Angus Bruneau

The beautiful memorial wood carving in the sanctuary was dedicated last Fall. Angus Bruneau, who crafted it, has agreed to continue to oversee the manufacture of the “leaves” and the arrangements for printing and mounting names from time to time at Session’s direction. The initial list contained thirty-three (33) names and a further twenty-eight (28) names were added in May. Many thanks to Angus for this dedicated service.

Cyril W. Barnes	Afton A. Clouston	Ralph W. Barnes
Fred J. Penney	Mary J. Barnes	Diane Kieft
Lamont Parsons	Arthur W. Hodder	Chesley A. Pippy
Louis Calver	Peter Berghuis	Rita Stevens
Gordon Wiseman	Vater Rose	Ada Barnes
Aubrey O. Bonnell	Herbert Barnes	Llewellyn Pike
Lauren Cumming	Eleanor Raynes	James R. Steele
Ethel Cahill	John W. Cahill	Frank Parsons
Douglas Morris	Ethel Thomas	Marion Frost
Arthur Frost	Valera Parsons	Rose Carmichael
Barbara T. Langmead	Aretha Goobie	Margaret MacDonald
J. Hutton Clouston	A. H. (Bill) Crosbie	William Caldwell
Eric Calver	Beatrice Chancey	Lillian Pittman
Winnifred Penney	Fred Morrissey Sr.	Effie Barnes
Doris M. Barter	Marion Clouston	Gladys Calver
Norman Baird	Lollie Barnes	Harry Hodder
Susan McCorquodale	Gordon Hibbs	Harry Kieft
Fred Calver	William Knott	Sheelagh Gamble
Minnie Hodder	Edna Maude Pippy	Lillian Hurd
York King	Bert Penney	Jessie Calver
Margaret Carmichael		

Canadian Red Cross

May 2003

Thank you for your support of the Badger Flood Appeal. We are very pleased with the tremendous support we have received and have been working diligently to translate your donation into meaningful assistance to the residents of Badger, Newfoundland.

The Canadian Red Cross was called upon to assist more than 900 people on February 15, 2003 when an ice jam near the town of Badger, Newfoundland caused flash flooding in the town. Some residents escaped the rising waters with only the clothes they were wearing. Much of the town remains encased in ice due to the freezing temperatures. Red Cross volunteers have provided immediate assistance to the flood victims in the form of clothing, food, shelter, personal items and other needs identified by conducting a thorough needs assessment with each of the families.

Your contribution has not only allowed us to provide for the immediate needs of the Badger residents. It has allowed us to plan for the recovery phase of the flood which will come when the water recedes and the damages can be assessed. The Canadian Red Cross will be working closely with the provincial government and other organizations to ensure that the needs of those affected are met to the best of our abilities.

The Canadian Red Cross is proud to be the organization that people turn to when they are in crisis. We are glad we can be there, anywhere, anytime help is needed and we are grateful that we can depend on the support of our friends, not only when disaster strikes, but also to help us be prepared to respond to the needs of communities across Canada.

Once again, thank you for supporting the Badger Flood Appeal. You have helped us to help others cope with this disaster.

Rhonda Kenney, Regional Director,
Newfoundland and Labrador

“Thank you from Catherine Picco”

I am still talking about the “farewell party” held for me at the Church Hall before I left to marry Don in Nova Scotia. My anticipation of the party led me to wonder and worry about the kind of sendoff my church friends had in store for me. I have to confess that in all my wondering and worrying, I never imagined the creativity, inspiration, and imagination shown by the planning committee in conceiving the event. What a piece of theatrical work! Some of you should head for Hollywood.

From the lovely table arrangements, to the tasty finger foods and desserts, to the choruses sung to each letter of my name, to the fabulous fashion show, to the beautiful models (overdressed and underdressed), to the love story theme, and all the beautiful gifts — it was wonderful. And I wouldn't mind having that large picture of Don for my hymn book! But best of all, was the opportunity to see all my friends and to say warm good byes.

Don and I were married on Saturday, May 31st at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Dartmouth, by Rev. George MacDonald (Knox Presbyterian Church, Halifax) and Father John Hayes of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Dartmouth. Note to Sheena: I walked up the aisle with my head held high and enjoyed every minute of the wedding ceremony. Rev. Sandy MacDonald, minister at St. Andrew's, was to have performed the ceremony, but on that weekend he was in Guelph to be installed as Moderator of the General Assembly. The weather co-operated on our wedding day and everything went without (with?) a hitch. My sisters and brother and their spouses, and Don's sisters and brother and their spouses attended, as well as my three sons and Don's two. Also in attendance were Don's father-in-law Roy Forhan, friend Vera Beaton and a special family aunt, Edie Hamshaw — 23 in all.

We used “family photographers” to record the events of the day. Don's sons have put digital-camera pictures on the Internet at www.dondinn.com. More pictures will be added as they are received from others and scanned-in. We haven't edited the pictures, so you will see the good, the bad, and the ugly.

I want to express my sincere and warmest thanks to all of you at St. David's for the most wonderful sendoff. I hope to see some of you when I return to St. John's in late July.

Our address is:

40 Overdale Lane
Dartmouth, NS
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Phone: 902-469-4647
email: ddinn@moose.to



Guest of Honour



Models or Mummies?????



Pictures courtesy of Penny Gillies

A few friends

Pun My Word

- Those who jump off a Paris bridge are in Seine.
- Tennis players don't marry because Love means nothing to them.
- It was an emotional wedding: even the cake was in tiers.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- What is the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway.)
- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
- Show me a piano falling down a mine shaft and I will show you A-flat minor.
- The short fortune teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
- She had a boyfriend with a broken leg, but broke it off.
- When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds.

2003 GARAGE SALE



Pictures courtesy of Penny Gillies

ATLANTIC MISSION SOCIETY

CELEBRATING OUR 40TH ANNUAL MEETING

The Newfoundland Presbyterial of the Atlantic Mission Society was officially formed on June 26, 1963 at St. Matthew's Church, Grand Falls. The first annual meeting was held at St. Andrew's Church, St. John's in June 1964 making 2003 our 40th anniversary. Jane Moncrieff, who was instrumental in having the Presbyterial formed, was the first president. Previously, the Newfoundland auxiliaries were affiliated with Cape Breton Presbyterial.

In the early years there were six auxiliaries: St. Andrew's (evening and afternoon), St. Aiden's, St. David's, St. Paul's, Corner Brook; St. Matthew's, Grand Falls. It was just two years ago that St. Matthew's became inactive, but we still have Daisy Thompson with us as mission Education Secretary. We have hosted two successful Annual Meetings of the AMS General Society – May 1972 and September 2000.

The present two auxiliaries – St. Andrew's and St. David's are very much alive and active with between 25 to 30 members and 50 Home Helpers. As part of the Atlantic Mission Society we are praying for and working to financially support mission projects and missionaries throughout the world and at home.

CHRIST FOR THE WORLD

Eulogy on Dr. Frazier Walsh

(Sept. 19, 1920 – March 6, 2003)

By Dr. Tom Cantwell
March 10, 2003

I experienced a great feeling of sadness on Friday morning when I received a phone call from Maeve Walsh saying that her dad had passed away the previous morning. I was extremely honoured to be asked by the family to present a eulogy for Dr. Walsh. Despite being ill myself, I was determined to fulfil the family's request. I realized that there were countless other people who could speak of Dr. Walsh far more eloquently than I could. However, as I thought about his life and my knowledge of him, and did some research of his accomplishments, I realized how much we actually had in common.

I had arrived in Newfoundland with my family, including infant twins, in 1975 and followed in Dr. Walsh's footsteps to become Clinical Director and Medical Director at the Waterford Hospital. I was humbled, however, when I looked at Dr. Walsh's many accomplishments.

Frazier, as he was best known, was born in Northern Ireland in 1920. He received his medical and psychiatric training at Queen's University, Belfast and at the Royal Victoria Hospital, also in Belfast. He married his wife Kathleen, on July 18, 1946. Two years later they were the parents of twin girls, Maeve and Emir. Moya (the baby) was born in St. John's on July 21, 1958.

The circumstances of Frazier's arrival in Newfoundland, I discovered, were very different from my own. His arrival here was not smooth sailing. He, Kathleen and the twins came to St. John's on the SS Nova Scotia. The crossing was very rough. The ship

had to anchor twice in the Atlantic Ocean because of weather. It also had to anchor outside the narrows waiting to enter St. John's harbor, again because of the weather. Kathleen and the twins, then seventeen months old, suffered from seasickness and I am told that Frazier threw many dirty diapers overboard during the crossing.

When the ship finally docked at the Northeast side of the harbour Kathleen looked out the porthole at the snow and ice covered Southside hills and said she didn't care if it was a desolate looking rock, she was getting off that ship and never getting onboard another ship as long as she lived.

The family was met by Dr. Pottle and Dr. O'Brien, both psychiatrists at the Waterford Hospital, in fact the only psychiatrists at the Waterford Hospital at the time. They brought Frazier and his family to the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases, now known as the Waterford Hospital. I remember quite well going to a meeting with Frazier several years ago. The date was January 13 and he remarked "I remember well forty six years ago today I walked up the steps of this hospital with a twin under each arm and it seems only like yesterday." For the next two and a half years the family lived in an apartment on the second floor just over the front entrance of the Hospital. They then moved into a house on the grounds. I am told that Kathleen and the children got to know every nook and cranny of Bowring Park over the next several years.

Frazier was a man of many talents. These were not limited to his medical and psychiatric expertise. He was an avid fisherman, gardener, and had many and varied interests.

Most of us have had to do resumes and keep them updated on a regular basis for one reason or another. I have seen physicians' resumes more than twenty pages long detailing their various activities on committees, referring to their hobbies, their talents, their accomplishments, their publications, including a recent resume I received which stated "I hold a current British driver's license."

Frazier, being a simple man, had his resume on a single page. His resume gave simply his place and date of birth, his medical degrees, his list of experience from 1946 to 1994, memberships in a variety of administrative organizations, his position as clinical Associate Professor at Memorial University and a list of awards.

The listing on his resume is typical of the man and the physician and one has to go behind the headings to uncover his real accomplishments.

A publication of Breakwater Books titled "Out of Mind, Out of Sight" a History of the Waterford Hospital written by Patricia O'Brien refers to many of these accomplishments. Frazier, in fact, was one of the sources utilized by Ms. O'Brien in her research for this book. The second part basically chronicles the lives of three great men: Doctors O'Brien, Pottle and Frazier Walsh.

When he began at the Waterford Hospital in 1950, he was the third psychiatrist on staff. The hospital was much bigger at that time and the first of the effective medications had not yet been discovered. He was instrumental in bringing not only the Waterford Hospital into a new era but also psychiatry in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador. He was deeply involved in the development of the residency-training program at Memorial University. By the late 1950's, to quote from **Out of Mind, Out of Sight**, "the residency training program was regarded as one of the best in existence in Canada".

I have here an old undated cutting from a newspaper showing a photograph of Frazier in uniform and an article announcing his appointment as provincial commissioner. The article reads:

The St. John Ambulance Brigade has announced the appointment of Lt. Col. J. F. Walsh, C.D., MB. as provincial commissioner of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Newfoundland. He succeeds Col. A. S. Lewis, C. D., M.D. who held the appointment for 14 years.

Lt. Col. Walsh graduated from Queens University of Belfast and qualified as a doctor in July 1945. He spent the greater part of time working in mental hospitals until brought to Newfoundland in January 1950. He has worked in the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases, St. John's since that time and has been superintendent since September 1960.

Since coming to Newfoundland, Doctor Walsh has been keenly interested in the Canadian Militia.

He is an ex-commanding officer of

No. 1 Medical Company R.C.A.M.C. (Militia) and held the post of D.A.D.M.S. for the Newfoundland area when he retired in 1964 with rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Prior to retirement to the reserve list Doctor Walsh was awarded the Canadian Decoration.

Doctor Walsh has always been interested in St. John Ambulance and over the years had responsibilities for training and examining candidates, both with the civilian population and in the militia. He was instrumental in setting up the Nursing Division and Ambulance Brigade in the Hospital for Mental and Nervous Diseases. In 1962, he was received as a serving brother into the Order of St. John of Jerusalem and in November 1962 was appointed deputy provincial commissioner of the Newfoundland St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Doctor Walsh is presently a provincial director of the Canadian Psychiatric Association and the provincial vice-president of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada.

I also have a copy of another letter written by John J. O'Brien, C.A.E., M.B.A., Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of St. John Ambulance, Newfoundland Council. In this letter Dr. Walsh is described as having "served an exemplary medical career in Canada. In addition to his distinguished psychiatric career, he has been an innovator in the field of first level, self-help care through this organization. He has worked with international resources to deliver such self-help programs to the remote areas of Labrador in Canada, where there existed no resident health care professionals. This model has been used in numerous countries around the world. Because of this endeavour,

as well as his long time command of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in this province, Her Majesty saw fit to honour his service by conferring a Knighthood of the Order of St. John on him in 1975".

If I were to outline all of Frazier's accomplishments or even a few this eulogy would be far too long and my greatest challenge was to decide what not to include. I know he would want this kept simple. I could elaborate on other awards he received including his Knighthood in the order of St. John, a medal for European Defense, a centennial medal, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal, and a Canadian Decoration.

Frazier often chatted with me about the changes he had seen during his career in Newfoundland and it is humbling to realize that many of the things we now take for granted are possible only because of the dedication, perseverance and unwillingness to quit or accept defeat of this great man.

To conclude, despite all his achievements, the people he held nearest and dearest to him were his wife, his children and his grandchildren.

I will close with a short verse, which I recall from my own two-room National School in Ireland.

"To each is given a book of rules, a shapeless mass and a box of tools and each must fashion err life has flown, a stumbling block or a stepping stone". On behalf of myself, our colleagues, co-workers and consumers, thank you Dr. Frazier Walsh for all of the stepping stones you have fashioned and left for us to follow. It has been an honour to know you and work with you.

The following request was received and approved by Session at its meeting on April 22, 2003 and is self-explanatory. Dedication of the memorial is planned for June 22, 2003.

Kemptville, Ontario
April 11, 2003

On April 1st, St. David's lost a valued member of its church family and we lost a dear friend – Barend Kieft.

The “we” that I speak of is the former 1st St. David's Scout and Venturer Troop. Together with Barend, we literally grew up in the church hall on Elizabeth Avenue and later at St. David's island campground. The memories are fond and the friendships long-lasting.

As in life, Barend has again brought us all together and the long-distance lines have been put to good use, catching up on past acquaintances, and searching for a way to celebrate the life of our good friend.

What we would like to do is plant a memorial tree on the grounds of St. David's Presbyterian Church with a plaque that can be dedicated at a time deemed appropriate by the Session. A blue spruce, fairly near the church on the Elizabeth Towers-side, was what we had in mind. We picked a spruce for two reasons. The symbolism of the evergreen – God's promise of eternal life – and secondly, it can be decorated with lights at Christmas. The thought that Barend would be remembered every year with a Christmas tree appealed to us greatly. We are, however, open to other suggestions.

Should the Session of St. David's approve this request, we would work closely with the Board of Managers to ensure its implementation and would assume all costs associated with the project. We would also consult with the Session as to the wording on any plaque; the timing of a dedication; and any participation that we might have in such a service.

On a personal note, I think of the congregation of St. David's often and with great fondness. I follow your progress with interest via the website and do hope that you will look favourably on this request. Interestingly, the driving forces behind this project did not have a direct link with the congregation. Yet, they were the ones most insistent that any memorial must include St. David's. I think that speaks volumes to the character of your great church and the strength of your mission.

Yours truly,

Jim Armour

