



MERIVALE-FALLOWFIELD NEWSLETTER



Advent 2003

FROM THE MINISTER

We are deep into fall once more. I am still working at Thanksgiving and the things that I am thankful for. The stores have moved on to prepare for Christmas.

During this fall, we have had occasion to give thanks for another successful supper at Fallowfield, and the installation of a stained glass window in memory of Alfred and Alma Mowat.

The quilters at Merivale organized a fantastic show and bazaar and Rev. Stewart was made Minister Emeritus of our pastoral charge to honour his time with us. Many thanks for the hands that made everything happen.

Both of our churches are moving ahead with preparations for the Christmas season. At this time, with all the joy and merrymaking of the season, it is often possible to lose sight of the meaning of the day. Christmas is a heavenly gift that only God can give. The meaning of Christmas is summed up best in a beautiful poem by Helen Rice:



It can't be bought or bartered, It can't be won or sold,
It doesn't cost a penny, and it's worth far more than gold.

It isn't bright and gleaming for eager eyes to see,
It can't be wrapped in tinsel or placed beneath a tree.

It isn't soft and shimmering for reaching hands to touch,
Or some expensive luxury you've wanted very much.

For the priceless gift of Christmas is meant just for the heart,
And we receive it only when we become a part
Of the kingdom and the glory which is ours to freely take,
For God sent the Holy Christ Child at Christmas for our sake,
So man might come to know Him and feel his presence near
And see the many miracles performed while he was here.

And this Priceless Gift of Christmas is within the reach of all,
The rich, the poor, the young and old, the greatest and the small.

So take His Priceless Gift of Love, reach out and you receive,
And the only payment God asks is just that you believe.

Helen Steiner Rice

In closing, I would be remiss in not mentioning and giving thanks for two people who have joined our church family, Tamar Shostakovsky and Barbara White who have added to our music and choir program. We are glad you are here.

A wonderful Christmas to all of you.

Rev. Martin

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Minister	1	- Social Committee	3	Christmas Pot Lucks	7
Letter from RevStu	2	The Sunday Schools	4	Sympathy	8
The Mowat Window	2	Fallowfield Turkey Supper	5	Did You Know?	9
Cookie Exchange	2	Bob's Famous Chilli	5	- Salute to the Ontario Farm	9
Music at Merivale/Fallowfield	3	Quilt Show	6	- Welcoming Sign	9
The Merivale Committees	3	Merivale Quilters	6	Special Thanks	9
- The Council	3	Merivale Fellowship	7	Drinking from the Saucer	10
- Maintenance Committee	3	Centre 507	7	Calendar of Events	11

LETTER FROM REV STU

To the Congregations of
Merivale and Fallowfield:

Words are inadequate to let you know how I felt on Sunday, November 2nd, when you bestowed upon me the honour and privilege of being "Minister Emeritus" to your Pastoral Charge. If you know the history of such an honour, you have to spend a lifetime in one congregation, and then if you deserve it, they give it to you.

It was a complete surprise when asked by your minister

if I would accept such an honour. I thought to myself: "here is someone who comes out of retirement to help a colleague on sick leave, spends two and half years having fun at their expense, and they want to present him with minister emeritus." I was humbled by the thought and even by the recognition. All I can say is, thank you, thank you, thank you.

One of the perks for such an honour is that you haven't seen the last of me. I will be seeing you from time to time

at worship, and if your minister needs a break. And, above all, thank you for letting me do it my way. (just kidding)

Stewart



Murray Airth presents Rev. Stewart Hewlett with a plaque upon his designation as Minister Emeritus of Merivale/Fallowfield, Nov 2, 2003

THE MOWAT WINDOW

On Sunday Nov. 16, the families of Alma Margaret [Wilson] Mowat and Alfred Roy Mowat dedicated a stained glass window in their memory.

The scripture was read by Irene Mowat. The choir sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and Mary Betts and Cliff Neill sang "Beyond The Sunset".

In attendance were 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, and two sisters-in-law. After the service the family had a luncheon back at "The Barn" on the original home farm. A big thank you to everyone who helped to make this Sunday so special.



Plan to join us for the annual **Fallowfield Christmas Cookie Exchange** on Nov.25 at 7:p.m. Bring some of your Christmas specialties—cookies, fudge, squares— wrapped in small packages of 1/2 dozen. You get to exchange as many [or as few] as you bring.

If you would like to donate a few extras, we will add them to our baskets for the sick and shut-in. After the fun and fellowship, we hold a short worship service. Hopefully it will put you in the right frame of mind for the season. Everyone welcome.

Barb Fraser

MUSIC AT MERIVALE/FALLOWFIELD



Organist Tamar Shostakovsky

We are very fortunate to have the services of two fine musicians. Tamar Shostakovsky is our new fulltime organist. She is a third-year political-science student at the University of Ottawa and has been playing piano since the age of six. She has three years experience on the organ.

Barb White will fill in for Tamar on occasion, particularly when our choir is performing their magic. Barb is also our choir director and obviously has the talent of a concert pianist.

service of a full time organist. We hope that she will be our guest organist from time to time in the future.

Tamar Shostakovsky
294-8601; 591-3688
Barb White 823-0732
Ministry and Personnel Committee

We warmly welcome both of these fine musicians into our church families. We look forward to their participation with us as they bring their various talents to our Pastoral Charge. Please introduce yourself and make them both feel welcome.

We wish to thank Gaye Brittle for her many years of faithful service as both organist and choir director. She is always a willing helper, particularly in times of emergency when we might not have had the



MERIVALE COMMITTEES



MERIVALE COUNCIL

Council has met three times since the summer recess. Apart from the routine business of the church, Council considered and approved four new items.

- 1) a contract for aluminum flashing for the front window facing Merivale road,
- 2) repair of the facer board on the north wall of the CE Hall, 3)
- rental of the CE Hall 7-10 pm

Friday evenings to the Evening Light Believers
4) replacement of the CE Hall front entrance doors in the spring of 2004.

A proposal received from Durieco Stone for repairs to the front retaining wall was passed to the trustees for their consideration. Temporary measures are being taken to protect the wall from further salt deterioration pending proper repairs in the spring.
Jim Whittaker

MAINTENANCE

A busy fall saw the painting of exterior windows, doors and railings; weatherproofing of the CE Hall door; touch-up painting of the pews and replacement of hymn book holders; replacement of the sanctuary thermostat; repair of the belfry fan; finishing trim for the belfry entrance; relocation of the CD player for belfry music to the secretary's



office; trimming of ivy from the church windows; relocation of the organ and installation of the front pew; and straightening of the pew cushions. Volunteers to assist with maintenance and suggestions for improvements are always welcome.

Jim Whittaker



SOCIAL
The Social
Committee

was kept busy serving tea, coffee, and muffins at the quilt show. We

made \$118.00. I would like to thank the ladies at Merivale for the muffins they brought. We will be eating them for a while yet on Wednesday mornings! I would like to thank Vera and Isabelle for their homemade soup for the workers at lunch. A big thanks to Sara Jane and Joanne for serving the tables all day. I'd like to thank Bev Ruskin for her hard work on the garage sale downstairs.

Rev Stu's special day was a great success. I'd like to thank all our friends at

Fallowfield for their delicious desserts. Merivale ladies, you did it again with sandwiches. Thanks again- everyone had a good time.

You may have noticed that everything in the kitchen is locked up. We have had problems with items disappearing!

A reminder of the Christmas potluck luncheon on Dec 14, which will round out this year's events.

Sandy Whittaker

THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS

FALLOWFIELD: The winter season is quickly coming upon us! The Sunday School Christmas Pageant and White Gift Service will be happening soon. Please remember to mark **Saturday December 6** on your calendar. The children of Fallowfield will meet at the church to prepare for the Christmas pageant to be held on **Sunday December 7**. Parents can drop their children off at the church at 9.30 a.m. on **Saturday** and can plan to pick them up around noon hour. A simple lunch will be served following the rehearsal.

And don't forget to attend the **Potluck Luncheon on Sunday December 7** following the Sunday School Pageant. Everyone of all ages is invited to attend! We look forward to seeing you there.

Sheila Allen

MERIVALE JUNIORS: This year our Sunday School has been divided into two classes. One class is for older members (those in grade 8 and up) and one class for younger members (grade 7 and under). I teach the younger class. Our enrollment is small, with an average attendance of 4.

We are following the "Show Me Jesus" curriculum. Most Sundays we complete a lesson, with a craft or game to follow. All members can find passages in the Bible and recite the Lord's Prayer

The younger class had a Halloween party. Candies and toys were hidden throughout the C.E Hall, for the children to find. Fun was had by all. We finished by watching a movie, "Casper and Wendy."

In the coming months we will be focusing on the New Testament and Christmas.

I would like to thank my mom for all her help and support.

Wendy Renaud

MERIVALE SENIOR CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our confirmation class, made up of Rachael, Natalie and Brett, is off to a great start. Everyone is interested in learning more about the Bible from a great Bible study book supplied by Rev. Carnahan, entitled *Through the Bible in a Year*. Our enthusiastic class completes two chapters each week including scripture reading and activities for each lesson. If you would like to volunteer to teach a lesson, please inform Arlene Anderson or Bev Ruskin.

Bev Ruskin

FALLOWFIELD TURKEY SUPPER

Our fall started out with the annual Turkey Supper, held on Saturday, Oct. 4 at the Fallowfield Church. Friday Oct. 3 was preparation night.

We served 382 adults, 52 take-outs, 16 children, and 6 complimentary meals.

As usual the supper was a great success, making \$3978.42 from tickets and \$93 from pies. A big thank you to all who helped in any way to make this event such a success. Special thanks to Bruce and Donna Cummings, Bruce Wilson and Bill Hall for entertaining the people while

they waited to be called down for their meals.

Our leftover food went to Centre 507, where it was greatly appreciated.

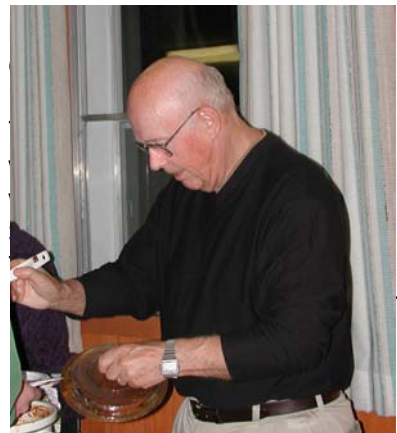
Irene Mowat



BOB'S FAMOUS CHILLI

About 60 people enjoyed the chilli served in the CE Hall on Saturday, Nov. 15. People not only enjoyed the feast, but stayed on to socialize with friends from Fallowfield and our Minister Emeritus, Rev Stu.

A special thanks to Bob Meisner and Sara Jane Meisner for making the chilli - vegetarian, hot, and mild - and for serving it up. Thanks to Barb Bell for selling tickets at Fallowfield and to Rev Martin for his purchase of 10 tickets. Baked beans made



Bob Meisner, officiating at the chilli supper.

QUILT SHOW, Saturday Oct. 25, 2003



Carol Meehan opening the show

At the top of the sanctuary stairs, people stopped and become speechless. If only they could have been there Friday evening when we turned on the lights!

The quilts represented colour, warmth, and love, which you just had to feel. It is the same feeling we have had all summer with our flowerbeds.

Our Garden Quilters have given us much enjoyment.

Many thanks to all who provided quilts, helped hang them, took them down; made crafts, baked, set up the new - to- you, served tea and muffins and parked cars. It is wonderful to see everyone using their God-given talents. We can accomplish so much when we work and play together.

We had 130 quilts this time. Approximately 180 paying visitors passed throughout the door. One visitor I met said that she had spent 1 1/2 hours in the sanctuary and she was on her way to the hall.

Many thanks to Carol Anne Meehan of CJOH News for opening the show and to Erma Nesbitt, my honorary co-convenor, a most gracious lady for her support and encouragement.

Ideas are starting to take shape for the next show in two years. It will be different; they are always different.

The winners of the door prizes at the quilt show were:

Margaret Weeks – tea for two at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier (donated by Tom and Amberlee O'Conner).

Chloris Brown – silk scarf (donated by Janet Lemoine)

Loral Murray – tea for two at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier (donated by Tom and Amberlee O'Conner).

Barbara Galbraith - signed lap quilt. (donated by the Merivale Quilters)

Gayle Ashby, Convenor



Convenor Gayle Ashby and honorary co-convenor Erma Nesbitt

THE MERIVALE QUILTERS

Wednesday mornings are busy in the C.E. Hall as the usual hives of activity continue to operate unabated. We like to call it "The Quilters," but in truth, there are many other labourers at work; carpenters, kitchen staff, electricians, painters, gardeners, office workers, editors, preachers, and even visitors.

Because of all this help, and in spite of all the interruptions, the quilters were able to produce an exceptionally successful quilt

show Oct. 25. The sanctuary was a kaleidoscope of colour, displaying over 150 quilts for the viewing pleasure of almost 200 visitors. CJOH's Carol Anne Meehan graciously opened the show.

We must thank all of the helpers who physically hung these works of art throughout Friday, the Ashby Security Service, which ensured their safety through the night, those who manned the doors, acted as

hostesses, parking lot attendants, and others who remained after the show to dismantle everything and tidy up for Sunday services. It is a lot of work for our little group, and whenever we wonder whether we have the energy to do it again, we are buoyed by the support and the success. So, who knows, perhaps we'll be at it again in 2005!

Sandra Marshall

MERIVALE FELLOWSHIP

The fall bazaar was a huge success. Our quilters outdid themselves arranging and decorating the sanctuary and CE Hall with an array of beautiful quilts. A wonderful history, portraying quilts of our community.

The bazaar was fantastic with a tea room, bake table, many crafts, plus all the odds and ends in the basement. Our treasurer, Inger Neilson, reported that we raised over \$2,000.

We voted to donate \$2000 to the Building Fund toward a new door for the CE Hall.

Many thanks to one and all.

Lila Hird

CENTRE 507



For the past 17 years, Centre 507 has been providing

services to people who are disadvantaged economically and socially.

Centre 507 is a day program of the City of Ottawa, and an outreach ministry of McLeod-

Stewarton United Church and the Montreal and Ottawa Conference of the United Church of Canada,.

Issues faced by participants include homelessness, mental illness, addictions, health concerns, chronic unemployment, extreme poverty, and abuse.

At this time of the year, the Centre particularly welcomes gifts of warm winter clothing and personal care products.

If you can help, there are boxes in both churches for items to be delivered to Centre 507.

Irene Mowat

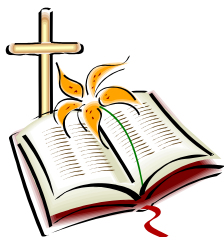
Christmas Pot Luck luncheons (after worship)

Fallowfield: December 07
Merivale: December 14

Christmas Eve Services – December 24

Merivale: 6:00 pm
Fallowfield: 8:00 pm

SYMPATHY



HEWITT: On October 28, a large crowd gathered at Bell's Corners United Church to celebrate the life and the faith of Rev. Frederick B. Hewitt. Rev. Hewitt lived his long life of 92 years with dedication, gusto and panache. Born in Toronto, he graduated in Theology from Queen's University, served as an officer of the Salvation Army, and ministered to a parish in Napanee, Ontario before assuming the pastorate of the Merivale/Fallowfield congregation. He was our pastor from 1976 to 1982. After his retirement (the second one!), he became Volunteer Associate Minister at Bell's Corners United Church. It was said of Rev. Hewitt, "Wherever he went, he could always find a piano."

Our deepest sympathy to his sisters Olive Knights and Doreen Hewitt of Vancouver, his daughters Ruth Sword and Margaret Bryan, and their families.

NESBITT: Many of the longer-term members of Merivale United Church will have been saddened to learn of the passing of Phyllis Levina Greer Nesbitt, on September

23, 2003. She would have been 70 on October 13. Phyllis was the daughter of Thomas and Bertha Nesbitt, and in 1986 joined with her brothers Harold and the late Morley, to install the memorial stained glass window beside their pew at the north-east corner of the church.

Merivale United Church was an important part of life for the family, whose home was found at the end of a quarter-mile lane running through what is now the parking lot beside the CE Hall. Phyllis was baptised and confirmed at Merivale, and taught Sunday school during the forties and fifties. While going through family papers in the last few weeks, I was touched to find such documents as the certificate of her 1935 acceptance as a member of the Merivale United Church Cradle Roll Department, and her 1948 Certificate of Achievement from the Ontario Department of Agriculture Women's Institute Branch - on the completion of two Homemaking Club Units (Sleeping Garments, and Home Garden Club!).

Aunt Phyllis was an independent, adventurous woman, who, as a consequence of her career at External Affairs, lived variously in Ireland, Poland, the United States and Switzerland. Every few years while my sisters, brother and I were growing up, she whirled

in and out of our young lives, bringing gifts and exciting stories of her exotic life abroad. My memories of Auntie Phyllis will always be of a fun-loving, generous soul, who loved to entertain on or off the pontoon boat at her Mississippi Lake cottage, and who took us to Expo 67 in Montreal, in her new white Impala convertible - with red leather seats!

In later years, when poor health began to take its toll, Phyllis enjoyed dining out with friends and family more often than entertaining at home. She was an enthusiastic Blue Jays fan, who spent much of her time in volunteer activities: cutting stamps for the Canadian Guide Dogs Association and crocheting afghans for hospitals and charities.

Phyllis was always very kind to and supportive of her family. She will be greatly missed by brother Harold (Heather), nieces Nancy (Kevin) Faraday, Kathy (Ron) Howard, and Mary, nephew David (Maria), grandnieces Emily Howard and Jessica Nesbitt, and grandnephews Thomas Nesbitt, Matthew Howard and Grayson Nesbitt.

Kathy (Nesbitt) Howard

McQUEEN: Our deepest sympathy to the Anderson family on the loss of Arlene's uncle John Matthew McQueen, November 18, 2003.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Merivale quilt entitled "**Salute to the Ontario Farm**" was presented to Matthew Nottingham, winner of the Junior Division of 4H Plowing, at the 2003 International Plowing Match. The quilt was designed by Gayle Ashby, and

appliquéd and quilted by the Merivale Quilters. It was on display at the Lanark County Quilters Guild Festival of Quilts, and throughout Farm Expo.

Welcome Sign: Ronald Mowat, David Bell and Allen

Ritchie donated their time and expertise to install a 4' by 8' sign at the corner of Richmond Road and Stonehaven Drive to welcome new people to our church.

SPECIAL THANKS

To **Chuck Ross**, who built new hymn book holders for the pews to accommodate our large "Voices United" and to all who assisted with the painting and installation thereof.

To **Bob Bell, Tom Strath, Mervyn Healy, Tom Ashby, Gerald Shewan, Matt Renaud, Jim Whittaker, Chuck Ross** for assisting with the many electrical, painting, carpentry etc. repair jobs over the summer. (No fear, jobs are still available for the winter!)

To **the quilters and other friends** for their donations of personal care items for hospital patients. The box has been used on many occasions and is about half full now. It's handy to have items for people who find themselves with us and don't have anything. Our PCA'S (patient care assistants) are very grateful that they have a stash of goodies to make people more comfortable. Simple things like hairbrushes and toothbrushes, paste and shaving lotion go a long way to making you feel better. Proud and grateful to have you all in

our little corner of the Ottawa Hospital.

Margaret Madden

Many thanks to **Chuck and Betty Ross** for their kind donation to the Stair Trac fund in honour of Edna Nesbitt. Edna had been well served by the Stair Trac and would be pleased with this memorial.
Vera, Dwight and Jim

To **Bob Bell** who refurbished the winter shelters for the church shrubs.



I come to the Garden alone while the dew is still on the roses. But I am not alone for the Lord is with me. His king of butterflies, the monarch, seeks sustenance from the beautiful purple flowers along the CE Hall wall. These same flowers, along with others in the Millennium Garden, receive much TLC from our gardeners, Vera and Jean. May God bless.



Anonymous, submitted on behalf of a grateful congregation.

DRINKING FROM THE SAUCER

I don't have a lot of riches,
And sometimes the going's rough;
But while I've friends to love,
I think I'm rich enough.
I'll just thank God for blessings
That his mercy has bestowed.
I'm drinking from the saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

If God gives me strength and courage,
When the way grows steep and rough;
I'll not ask for other blessings, I'm already blessed enough.
May I never be too busy
To help bear another's load.
Yes, I'm drinking from the saucer,
'Cause my cup has overflowed.

*Author Unknown
Special thanks to Isobel Strath*



Inukshuk by Chuck Ross

Merivale-Fallowfield Newsletter

Issued quarterly by the Merivale-Fallowfield Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada

Rev. Martin Carnahan, Minister

Ruth Kawaja, Secretary

Merivale Co-ordinator/Editor

Jean Stalker, (613) 727-9496

Fallowfield Co-ordinator/Editor

Barbara Bell, (613) 820-4503



MERIVALE/FALLOWFIELD CALENDAR



December 2003

WEEKLY

Sunday Worship Service and Sunday School

09:30 am at Fallowfield

11:00 am at Merivale

Coffee hour after church the first Sunday of the month at Fallowfield

Coffee hour on special occasions at Merivale

Wednesday

Merivale Quilters meet in the CE Building at 9:30 am

All are welcome to join the Quilters for coffee and conversation at 10:30

Thursday Evenings at 7:00

Fallowfield Choir practice

Singers from Merivale are welcome.

Third Thursday of every Month

Rev Carnahan conducts a worship service at Longfields Manor, 330 Beatrice.

Members of the congregation are invited to participate, especially if they like to sing.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Nov 25	Fallowfield Christmas Cookie Exchange, 7 pm, church basement
Nov 26	Christmas luncheon, Merivale Fellowship Group
Nov 30	1 st Sunday of Advent Fallowfield Seniors' service and coffee hour, to honour and thank our seniors (This replaces the Senior Tea originally schedules for Nov 29)
Dec 07	2 nd Sunday of Advent Fallowfield White Gift Sunday & Pot Luck Luncheon
Dec 14	3 rd Sunday of Advent Merivale Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon Coffee after the worship service at Fallowfield
Dec 21	4 th Sunday of Advent Christmas Sunday. Holy Communion, both churches
Dec 24	Christmas Eve services, 6:00 pm at Merivale; 8:00 pm at Fallowfield
Dec 28	Worship services at Fallowfield and Merivale at the usual hours.
Jan 11	Deadline for submission of annual reports.

The calendar for the year 2004 will be distributed with the next Newsletter. In the meantime, watch the church bulletin for announcements.

