



MERIVALE-FALLOWFIELD NEWSLETTER

Fall 2003



LIVING PURPOSEFULLY IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD

The two most important days
of your life are:

The day you are born AND
The day you discover WHY
you were born.

I have to confess that I am mechanically challenged...if there is anything to be fixed around the house I will end up breaking two other things in the process of trying to fix it. So, one day I asked a neighbour, a retired man of about 70 years old, if he would lend a hand fixing a few things around the house. He was happy to help. I left for work. When I came home later in the day I discovered that not only had he fixed what I had asked him to fix, he also found eight other things that needed some attention as well. I thanked him profusely for lending me a hand. He said, "No, I want to thank you. It is such a good

feeling to feel useful again; to use my gifts to help others."

My friend was expressing a deep need that we all have – the need to be useful; to feel that our lives have meaning and purpose.

It was Paul who wrote in Corinthians,
"The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others for the common good."

Jesus said, "Do not let your heart be troubled. My peace I give you, peace not as the world gives but the peace that I can give, I give to you."

The world searches for peace by trying to escape the realities of life. . . the fantasy of escaping to a deserted island where we can be free from the pressures, the problems and the pain that are part of everyday life. The peace that Jesus gives is the peace that comes from participating purposefully in the realities of life, discovering the unique way the Spirit has given us to serve others.

When we are very young, we fearlessly participate in life's adventures and reach out to people with eagerness. As we grow up, surrounded by our own pressures and the daily

Fallowfield United Church

Annual Fall Turkey Supper

Saturday, Oct. 4

Continuous serving 4:30 – 7:30 pm

Advance tickets only!
Reserve now.

Adults \$14

Children \$ 6

Free – children under 6 years

Information: 838-5538

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outpouring of bad news, we become more and more afraid and too often end up retreating farther and farther into our isolated shells. We find ourselves looking at the world in terms of control, possessions and safety, instead of growth,

understanding and compassion. Not long ago, the constant battering of bad news and a series of personal setbacks finally pushed me into a state of despair.

All I could think about was escaping, leaving it all behind, and finding some peace somewhere, somehow. As much as I wanted to believe that things would improve, as much as I desperately wanted to believe that each of us can make a difference in the world, I was on the verge of giving up and opting out.

Then one day, when I was getting out of my car, I saw a little boy leaning over a bird in the next-door neighbour's yard. The bird had flown into a plate-glass window and injured itself, and the boy was building a small nest in a shoebox to take the bird home and care for it. Seeing this boy tenderly lift that bird with an incredible sense of purpose in his eyes was like the ringing of a bell. I realized

that compassion is a part of all of us.

Like that small boy, we all move through life with the capacity and desire to love buried in our hearts. We may lose track, get too busy and distracted to pay attention, get bogged down in the day-to-day troubles of life, but it is always there, ready to be awakened.

Peace and purpose is found when we discover the Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others for the common good.

Living peacefully and purposefully in an anxious world is not found in escaping life, but in choosing to get deeply involved in life. It is not found in worrying about what we can get but in our willingness to give of ourselves.

It was Mary MacKillop who said, "God wants us by every means in our power to lead others to life." Peace is not found in escaping life but

becoming deeply involved in leading others to life. . . discovering that special way the Spirit has given you to serve others for the benefit of all.

I Corinthians 12:4-7

There are a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; There are all sorts of services to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is at work.

The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others for the common good.



MONTREAL AND OTTAWA CONFERENCE



Merivale/Fallowfield at Conference: Irene Mowat, Rev. Martin Carnahan and Rev. Stewart Hewlett are visible; Ruth Kawaja is behind the camera!

This year Conference met from May 30 to June 1 at John Abbott College in Ste Anne de Bellevue, QC. Registration and opening took place at 3 pm Friday. The evening session consisted of table group introductions, presentation of the retirees, and a social gathering for making new friends and visiting with old friends. The evening came to a close with wine and cheese.

Saturday began with an early morning worship service and then we returned to our group tables for discussion and music by Linnea Good.

The theme of the conference was "A River Flows through It."

The new President is Norma McCord and the President-elect is Rev. Arlyce Schiebout.

Saturday evening was a celebration of the ministry and the ordination of Dale Skinner.

Sunday morning began with an early worship service and workshops. The conference ended with worship and communion.

Irene Mowat

LETTER FROM JIM WILSON



Dear Friends at Fallowfield and Merivale,

I am leaving the position of organist and choir director with many fond memories. You have extended friendship, encouragement, and compliments regarding my choice of music.

A big thank you is given to all those who were choir members and who sang solos at both churches. Your dedication, cooperation and talents were really appreciated.

To Gaye Brittle, I wish to echo a gigantic thank you. I am most grateful for the assistance you have given with the choir and your willingness to play the organ during my absences.

I have also been blessed to be able to work with Rev. Hewlett and Rev. Carnahan. They have both been very positive and supportive individuals.

The gifts, cards, and notes you've given me at Christmas and at the Fallowfield Anniversary will always be cherished.

Hopefully, our paths will cross again.

Au revoir and sincere thanks,

Jim Wilson

MERIVALE ROOTS

In the last issue of this Newsletter, we appealed for information about the history of this church between 1908 and 1925; the location of the church records for these years is a complete mystery. The local records are still missing, but help came from

an unexpected quarter. Al Clarkson of Scarborough, ON, has a deep interest in the history of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an active member. He saw our Newsletter in the Internet and wrote to offer many helpful suggestions as to where

secondary records (e.g., Presbytery) and other historical documents could be found, not only for this period of time, but for the earlier years as well. He is contributing much to our knowledge of our past.

Jean Stalker

MERIVALE COMMITTEES

MERIVALE COUNCIL

Not much to report from the dog days of summer. The next council meeting will be in September. One of the topics for discussion will be maintenance required around the buildings. Your suggestions (and assistance!) are welcome. A second topic will be funding for accessibility and other desirable major improvements. Be sure to read the Board of Trustees article by Bob Meisner for other developments

Jim Whittaker

BELFRY MUSINGS

God is everywhere. Even in our church belfry. Those who are long standing members of our congregation may recall that the belfry contained an exhaust fan to help reduce the humidity on a hot summer's day. After some much needed TLC and reconnection to power the fan is once again purring like a kitten. This may have had some effect on the better air quality in the church on Sunday August 17.

While working on the fan we noted that the loudspeaker serving the walkway to the north of the entrance had fallen from its mount. Now back in its proper position it provides better volume for those entering the church.

Our appreciation goes out to the O'Connor's who have allowed use of their CD player for the belfry music since its inception. Council has procured a replacement unit for permanent use. Initial operation of the new CD player was a nightmare. No audio output! That is until the installer realized he had pulled the power plug for the amplifier.

Members of the maintenance committee are on standby to install railings on the belfry walkways for increased safety of workers.

Jim Whittaker

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This has been a fairly busy summer for the Board of Trustees.

In June we were asked to approve the insurance premiums on the Church buildings and its contents. Dave Cooney took on this task.

Jim Marshall has asked that the Board look after Church investments, in order to ensure that a consistent cash flow be available to run the daily affairs of the Church. Jim Anderson has agreed to look into reliable investments.

In June we were once again approached by Mobilia asking if we were willing to sell them

the most easterly 25 ft. of our property lying some 450 ft. to the rear of the CE hall. The property in question is not considered by Merivale United Church to be useable land. This time they met our price and we agreed to sell them the property. We have received verbal approval from Presbytery to proceed with the sale and we have been assured that written approval will be given after the holiday period. Accordingly we have signed the Agreement for Purchase and Sale will be closing the deal sometime in September.

It is anticipated that some of the proceeds of the sale will be used on improvements to the Church, including improved accessibility. The remaining funds will be invested.

Bob Meisner, Chair



FALLOWFIELD ANNIVERSARY



Judy Matheson with Irene Mowat

Fallowfield celebrated their 117th anniversary on June 8, 2003.

The guest speaker was Judy Matheson from Aylmer United Church. Her message was "The Church Of The 21st Century."

The service was followed by a barbeque.

Irene Mowat



Garnet Foster cutting the cake

CONGREGATIONAL CORN FEST

On August 13, about 40 members of the two congregations (plus two dogs) enjoyed a feast of fresh corn and hot dogs in the park behind Merivale. Tom Ashby officiated as chef. This was the third annual such event, and much enjoyed by all.



Ottawa Presbytery Resource Fair

Friday, October 17, 1:00 PM
to Saturday, October 18 at 3:00 PM

City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave

Sale of books, resources and supplies.

Info 730-5761

Roast Beef Dinner

St. Patrick's, 15 Steeple Hill Crescent

Sunday, Sept 28, from 4:30 pm

Adults \$12.00
Children 6 to 12 \$ 6.00
Children under 6 free

THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS

MERIVALE

The year-end party went well. We all had pizza, played games and watched the movie "Max Keeper's Big Move." Thanks to Mrs. Ruskin for the cupcakes and icing. Everyone had fun decorating and eating them. All members left with diplomas and presents.

This year we will be using the "Show Me Jesus" curriculum. One program is for our members in grades 7 and up and another program for our

younger members. Every Sunday a different member of our Sunday School will be teacher for the day, under my watchful eye, of course.

I welcome back all of our regular members and hope to see some new faces in our Sunday School this year.

Wendy Renaud

FALLOWFIELD

September 7 begins the new Sunday School year at Fallowfield. We are looking forward to seeing everyone

back at church and in class! Two new teachers have joined our ranks--Debi Allen and Jen Malcolm. They will be heading up the junior class in the basement. We will be offering support in the Nursery as well as junior and senior classes this year. If you are interested in helping out on a rotational basis in the Nursery, please contact myself (Sheila Allen 825-8219) or any of our other Sunday School staff (Lesley Airth, Barb Fraser, or Cheryl Hill).

Sheila Allen



The Fallowfield Sunday School Year-End Party, June 22, 2002, at Steeple Hill Park

MERIVALE FELLOWSHIP GROUP

After a three-month holiday, our first meeting will be on September 27. We hope to see all former members and new friends for lunch, fellowship, and a short worship. We will make plans for the rest of the year and

talk about how we can help at the quilt show October 25. We will also talk about how to use our offerings from last year.

We had hoped to have "The Mission" provide breakfast in the spring, but they were too

busy. We will try for a date soon.

Hope to see you with your bag lunch and lots of ideas.

Isobel Strath

Mark Your Calendar

A feast of Bob Meisner's famous chilli is being planned for November 15

MERIVALE QUILTERS

HAVE NEEDLES, WILL TRAVEL



The Lanark County Quilters Guild Festival of Quilts, held in Perth on the weekend of August 8-10, received a giant boost when a busload of quilters and friends arrived from Merivale/Fallowfield. Quilts entered in the quilt competition for the Lanark Fall Plowing Match were on display, and we wanted to see the one again, gearing up for our big quilt show in October.

designed by Gayle and quilted by our group.

There were 35 aboard the school bus which left the church at 10:15 AM, enjoyed a quiet, casual lunch at Maximillian's restaurant in Perth, visited the show, and returned about 5 pm, all under the expert care of Tom and Gayle Ashby. Our entry did not win a prize, but garnered a lot of attention from the viewers because of its unique design. It was titled "Salute to the Ontario Farm" and 17 members of our group contributed to it in some way, gathering fabrics, cutting, stitching, giving advice, admiring, encouraging, and, of course, quilting.

The quilt has been given to the Ontario Plowman's Association to be awarded to the top 4-H plow person at the Rural Expo International Plowing Match to be held at Carleton Place September 17-21, 2003.

Although we were not able to convince Rev. Martin to put a needle and thread into our work of art, he agreed to come along for the ride.

The Wednesday morning extended group has continued to meet throughout the summer, some quilters, gardeners, repairmen, kitchen and official staff showing up most weeks for fellowship, work and lemonade. By September, we should be out in force

Sandra Marshall



QUILT SHOW/BAZAAR

The Fellowship Group and Quilters are planning another of their famous quilt shows for Saturday, October 25, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This event could not be the success it always is without a lot of help from everyone. The quilts will be displayed in the church, church basement, and tunnel; bazaar items, bake table, and tea room will go in the upper C.E. Hall; private craft sales in the lower C.E. Hall.

So ...we will need help to set up on Friday, hang quilts, set up tables, etc. On Saturday, we need bake and craft items

to sell, hosts and hostesses for the quilt area, people to help sell and people to be in the tearoom. There is a job for everyone.

Is there anyone who really enjoys promotion work? We need help promoting this event - putting up flyers, contacting newspapers, tv. etc.

If you know anyone who would like to rent a table to sell a craft, please have them get in touch with us. And, most important, do you have a quilt to show? Please let me know.

We will be featuring the Simple Country Sampler, a design by Lydia Quigley of Kingston. It incorporates piecing and appliqué in a quilt suitable for beginners and beyond.

Well-known quilting instructor Victoria Van der Linden taught four classes of this very popular pattern early this year. The resulting variations were so spectacular that a display of her students' work has been co-ordinated and will be shown.

Gayle Ashby
825-3861

IN THE GARDEN

The gardeners have finally come to grips with the problem bed at the south entrance to the church. This bed abuts against a south-facing masonry wall, and is very hot, very dry and very far from the nearest outside

water tap. Previous plantings have all failed. This time we planted perennials reputed to like hot, dry conditions (Russian sage, gas plant, sedums, and hen-and-chicks). To frustrate the weeds, we surrounded our

plants with a mulch of fieldstone over landscape fabric. To keep everything in place, we put in two low retaining walls of fieldstone. Will it work? We certainly hope so.

, Vera Hamman, Jean Stalker

SYMPATHY

ANDERSON: Rev. Ray Anderson passed away on June 10 in Woolsey, Sask. Rev. Ray, as he was very affectionately known, was the minister of Merivale-Fallowfield Pastoral Charge from 1971 to 1976. He was a large part of the 100th anniversary celebration of Merivale United Church in 1976, riding in a buggy with

Rev. Tommy Douglas to lead the celebrations. He left the charge to join his son John in a team ministry until his retirement. Rev. Ray had a great fondness for writing and has left many memories with his written words. Our deepest sympathy to Daisley and the Anderson family.

NESBITT: On July 16, 2003, we lost the intrepid Edna Nesbitt. Edna had been an active member of Merivale Presbyterian Church, then Merivale United Church, throughout her life of almost 97 years.

She was a descendant of some of the earliest pioneers of this community and was a

charter member of the City of Nepean's *Merivale Pioneer Historians*.

Her involvement with the church spanned the tenures of 20 ministers. In her younger days, she served as church secretary, taught Sunday School, and sang in the choir.

In her later years, she entered and left the church with regal dignity in the Stair-

Trac, which she was the very first to adopt.

Edna was in her pew most Sundays until a few weeks before her passing. She retained her keen sense of humour and razor wit until the end.

Our deepest sympathy to Vera Nesbitt Hamman, to Dwight and Anne Nesbitt and to Edna's devoted caregiver and near-son, James Lemoine.

ORR: George Orr of Pineglens was a long-time supporter of our church. He had been brought up in the United Church and he felt that a church is a valuable part of any community. Our deepest sympathy to his family.

REDDY: Our deepest sympathy to the family of long-time member Grace Reddy, who passed away July 9, 2003.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Official Board at their June meeting decided to honour **Rev. Stewart Hewlett** by naming him Minister Emeritus. The date has not yet been set, but it will be a Sunday service at 11:00 am at Merivale. Watch the bulletin for details. (F, M)

Ruth Kawaja has a new multi-purpose office machine. This machine combines the functions of a laser printer, a

scanner, a fax machine and a photocopier. But Ruth really wanted one that would also make coffee.

Jahala Hethrington's two granddaughters Sarah and Jennifer Hethrington have moved into their own home.

John and Ivy Randall, with granddaughter Lindsay Burnett, toured Newfoundland.

John and Judy Lancaster visited Graham and travelled from Calgary to the Okanagan Valley. They didn't see any fire, but certainly the smoke was in the air.

Don and Pat Clysdale have transferred their membership to North Bay. They will be a wonderful addition to the congregation.

SPECIAL THANKS

To **Tom and Gayle Ashby** have kept the church lawns in good order throughout the season. It's a lot of hard work, and it is much appreciated. (M)

To **Sandy Whittaker, Robbie Sprague and colleagues** who served lemonade on the lawn after church during the summer months. (F,M)

To **Tom and Amberlee O'Connor** for the music in the tower. (M)

To **Chuck Ross**, who built and installed a much-needed hymn board. (M).

To **all who contributed** Canadian Tire Money for the sprinkler. (M)

To **Don and Betty Robertson** for their donation to the church garden in memory of former member **Tom Fry**. After consultation with Hazel Fry, we concluded that he would be best

remembered with some professional-grade garden tools. We think that Tom Fry would be pleased that his memorial is continuing with some of his work.

To **Jean Stalker** for the contribution of a Dutch hoe to the church garden in memory of Edna Nesbitt. Edna enjoyed the church garden and often received a nosegay from it for her enjoyment at home. She would be pleased

with this kind remembrance in support of the garden that

gave her so much pleasure." *Vera, Dwight and Jim*

Apologies to all those we have missed; they are many.

CONGRATULATIONS

To **Bob, Erica and Grace Armstrong** who had a new addition to their family this summer. Sarah Maureen was baptized Aug. 24. (F)

To **Alvin and Joan Stewart**, who celebrated their 50th anniversary Aug. 22. (M)

To **Gordon and Barbara Hill** will be celebrating their 50th anniversary Sept. 19. (F)

To **Jennifer Malcolm** and **Robert Keech** who were married Aug.22.

To **Mike Allen** and **Maxine Jervis** who are to be married Sept. 13. (F)

To **Robert Fraser** and **Carolyn James**, who are to be married Sept. 6. (F)

To **Arlene Fraser** and **Hugh Hunter**, who are to be married in Smith Falls Sept. 26. A shower for Arlene was held Aug 18. (F)

To Viola Mitchell, who celebrated her 87th birthday Aug. 25.

To **Kent Fraser**, who is off to Kemptville College of Agriculture for two years. Kent's awards included: Manotick Kiwanis bursary for "daily living of the golden rule"; the Blake Harris award

for the highest average in the best six courses; honour roll for over 80% average; athletic letter.

To **Kelly Mitchell**, who is going to Algonquin College for the three-year course in Business Administration. She won awards for Business Studies and Academic Excellence..

To **Rob Tyo**, who is beginning his studies at Heritage Bible College & Seminary in Cambridge, ON. He is pursuing a Bachelor of Religious Education degree with concentration in youth ministry. (M)

FALLOWFIELD SENIORS

Please remember in your prayers:

Garnet Foster is in the Almonte Hospital Rehabilitation Section.

Minerva Foster is recovering at home.

Velma Dunn is in the Stittsville Villa.

Wilma Coates is recovering after surgery.

Bruce Mooney's mom, **Jean Mooney**, is not well

Ellen Mooney's mom, **Pat Webb**, has sustained a broken hip.

Barbara Fraser's dad, **Arthur Milne**, is not well.

ADDRESS CHANGES

NAME	TO (ADDRESS)	TELEPHONE
Velma Dunn	Stittsville Villa, 1354 Main Street, Stittsville, K2S 1V4	831-9671
Joyce (Fedorko) Buchanan	3737 Jockvale Road, Nepean, K2C 3H2	692-3419
George and Eva Giles	—	692-4075
Larry King	1403 2841 Richmond Road, Ottawa K2B 6C5	829-3356
Woolford-Shaw family	55 Peacock Crescent, Nepean, K2J 3N8	823-5859
Jim Wilson	—	746-7157
Heather and Mike Patterson	62 Appledale Drive, Nepean K2J 4W6	843-8473
Brad and Lynn Sakalski	267 Markland Cr, Nepean K2G 6A8	825-7634

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September to 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

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

Sep 03	Meeting of the Fallowfield Board at 7:15
Sep 05	Fallowfield Social Committee meets to plan the turkey dinner.
Sep 07	Sunday School resumes, both churches
Sep 10	Merivale Council meets at 7:00 pm.
Sep 17	Pastoral Charge Meeting at 7:15 pm.
Sep 24	Merivale Fellowship resumes. 12:00 noon. Bring sandwich.
Sep 28	Roast Beef Dinner at St. Pat's, Fallowfield. 4:30 pm. Adults \$12.00, children over 6, \$6.00, under 6 free.
Oct 03	Preparations for Fallowfield Fall Turkey Supper, 7:00 pm
Oct 04	Fallowfield Fall Turkey Supper. 4:30 pm
Oct 05	Holy communion at both churches. Coffee at Fallowfield
Oct 12	Thanksgiving Sunday
Oct 17-18	Ottawa Presbytery Resource Fair at City View United Church. Info: 730-5761
Oct 25	Merivale Quilt Show & Bazaar, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. 20 th anniversary of the Merivale Quilters.
Oct 26	Reformation Sunday

Oct 29	Merivale Fellowship (date to be confirmed)
Nov 02	Coffee after worship (F)
Nov 09	Remembrance Day
Nov 15	Congregational supper, featuring Bob Meisner's world-famous chilli.
Nov 23	Pre-Advent Newsletter
Nov 25	Fallowfield Christmas Cookie Exchange, 7 pm, church basement
Nov 26	Christmas luncheon, Merivale Fellowship
Nov 30	1 st Sunday of Advent
Nov 30	Fallowfield Seniors' luncheon – Church basement, 11:00 am
Dec 07	Fallowfield White Gift Sunday & Pot Luck Luncheon
Dec 14	Merivale Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon
Dec 21	Christmas Sunday. Holy Communion, both churches
Dec 24	Christmas Eve services, 6:00 pm at Merivale; 8:00 pm at Fallowfield

- Merivale welcome at all Fallowfield Events
- Fallowfield welcome at all Merivale Events

Merivale-Fallowfield Newsletter

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

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