



MERIVALE/FALLOWFIELD NEWSLETTER



Summer 2009

Words from the Minister

Dear Friends in Christ,

Warmest greetings for this Spring season! I would like to begin by saying that I have learned the Merivale/Fallowfield Pastoral Charge is a community on the move. It is a charge that cares deeply for others and our motto is "Whoever you are and wherever you may find yourself on your journey of faith, we would be glad to welcome you into our church family."

All our worship and work is dedicated to the goal of turning the human race into the human family. Our mission is to make God's love tangible through Spirituality, Community, and Peace and Justice.

We would love to have you join us in person for worship, education, choir or ministry groups. We also have very energetic Sunday School teachers who provide excellent teaching on inclusive Christianity.

Those who join us find us joyfully and energetically challenging one another and the church at large to live Jesus' central message of compassion for all and to respect the dignity of every human being. When the world is hungering for communities to reach across all divides our churches provide a place where one can learn and practice how to express daily the deep truth of the interconnectivity of all people on the globe.

We hope you will find a way to connect with us, allowing for mutual care and support.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Sandra Yule

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Fallowfield's 123rd Anniversary

Sunday, June 14, 2009, 9:30 am



Special Speaker

Special music

Luncheon

Merivale is celebrating with Fallowfield

(no service at Merivale)



The Times are Changing



Rev. Martin Carnahan: After seven years as minister of the Merivale/Fallowfield Pastoral Charge, Rev. Martin Carnahan announced that he would be taking an early retirement.

Both congregations gathered independently after church on December 28 to reminisce and to wish Martin and Glenys godspeed as they take "One More Step Along the World". The Carnahans were presented with flowers and gifts.



Rev. Ann Durant: The first Sunday after Martin's departure, the worship services at both churches were conducted by the ebullient Rev. Ann Durant, shown here shaking hands with Isobel Strath.

Rev. Sandra Yule: On January 11, 2009, which was Sunday #2 of the post-Martin era, we welcomed Rev. Sandra Yule, who had been assigned by Presbytery to serve as our supply minister.

After the worship service at Merivale, we had an opportunity to meet Rev. Yule over coffee and snacks in the church basement (the CE Hall being unavailable due to renovations).

Rev. Yule is a graduate of Concordia University, McGill University, and Montreal United Theological College.



Rev. Yule (centre) meeting Sara Jane Meisner, (left), Arlene Anderson (partially hidden), Natalie Anderson (partially hidden) and Isobel Strath (right).

What's next? The United Church has a well-defined sequence of steps, which must be followed when a vacancy occurs in the ministry. On November 26, 2008, Rev. Gordon Roberts met with the two councils to inform them about the options.

Following this information session, the first step is to assess the needs of the congregations. A Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) was formed, under the chairmanship of Kent Fraser of Fallowfield, with Rev. Grant Dillenback of Stittsville as Presbytery adviser and Joanne Frolek of Merivale as secretary. Committee members included: Roy Abraham, Sheila Allen, Mary Betts, Sue Deschamps, Don Fraser, Peter Kelly, Richard McDonald, Glenn Ruskin, Donna-Lee Smith, Jean Stalker, and Rick Ward.

The JNAC met for the first time on February 25 and had six meetings. They finalized their report on June 3rd. The 16 page report includes recommendations for the Official Board and has an overall summary of the churches' communities, the pastoral charge, the churches' resources. It also includes a position description for the minister, the skills sought and terms of employment. The Committee used a questionnaire to determine the wishes of the congregations and reported back to the congregations frequently. The completed JNAC report is to go to the Official Board of the Pastoral Charge for approval on June 10. After that, the JNAC will disband, and a Joint Search Committee (JSC) will be formed.

Fallowfield Eats Out

On February 21, 2009 the sounds of laughter and conversation met me at the back door of Fallowfield United Church as I entered. The event taking place was sponsored by the Social Committee and called "Fallowfield Eats Out". I went upstairs first and enjoyed amazing appetizers made by many church ladies. Oh those shrimp were great!

The aromas of Italian lasagna and garlic Caesar salad filled the air and my mouth watered as I wandered into the basement hall. Wow, was my first reaction, the room was decorated and the tables set for a feast. It was warm, inviting and my goodness there was entertainment, Dan Hayward, an about-to-be-ordained United Church Minister slash Comedian. That was the first foray into entertainment we had made for a while and the guy was great. He had us all in stitches.

As the food was served buffet style in the kitchen, we got to see the huge amount that had been prepared on the tables and there was more in the ovens. I never knew one could make so many variations on a Caesar salad theme. There was enough for seconds and thirds should anyone possibly have had room for it.

The dinner brought out a lot of people from both Fallowfield and Merivale congregations, which was wonderful to see.

Sandra Yule, our new minister, blessed us and our food and enjoyed great conversations with her new congregants from both churches. New members, the Abrahams, joined us that evening. Just a month ago, along with myself, they had become new members of the United Church of Canada, in a service conducted by Sandra Yule at Fallowfield.

The dessert was yummy—frozen ice cream cake. Good job it was an all-adult evening; the kids really missed out and we got seconds.

The men did all the clean-up with much enthusiasm and had the whole thing cleaned up lickety split. I believe there were a few leftover lasagnas which were given to willing takers. Robbie did a great job of keeping the crowd up to speed on when the food was ready and introduced our comedian. This was her last event for a while, as she left for Africa with her husband; I believe that, by the time this goes to press, she will be back.

The evening was a huge success, with great turnout and a reconnection that has surely helped motivate all congregants to come out more and enjoy the church and fruits of all those who labour to serve and prepare these wonderful meals.

Joy Newton

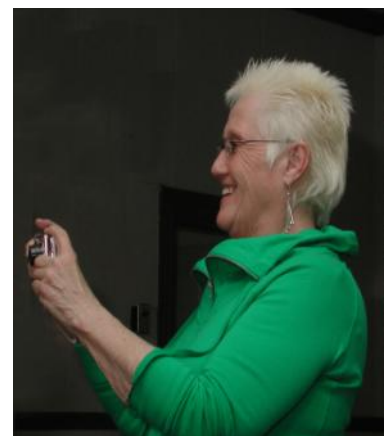


Elly Good, with new members Margaret and Roy Abraham



Right: Joy Newton—author of this account, photographer and new member of the Fallowfield congregation

Left: Do they do this at home??



Merivale Anniversary



May 3 marked the 133rd anniversary of the first service of worship in the building that is now Merivale United Church. The church started as Merivale Presbyterian in 1876; our minister at the time was Rev. Robert Whillans.

The front of the church was decorated with two exquisite azaleas and a chrysanthemum presented by Phyllis Mulligan, in memory of the Neill Quartet. This quartet sang here and at many other churches in the region. The singers, whose voices are now still, were: Everett, Eldon, Russell and Cliff Neill.

The Fallowfield choir sang beautifully. The anniversary speaker was Janet McInnes, who works with *The Well*, a women's resource centre. The service was followed

by a potluck luncheon in the newly rejuvenated CE Hall.



Speaker Janet McInnes of 'The Well'.

Fallowfield Beef Dinner

The annual Fallowfield Men's Beef Dinner, held on April 18, entertained a sell-out crowd. The proceeds, after all expenses, were just over \$1500. The total servings, including takeouts, were 240. The smooth running dinner was the result of great cooperation from most of the men in the congregation who

followed the guidance of Dave Bell's organization chart.

A special thanks goes to all of the women who provided the apple crisp and double thanks to ticket taker Shelia Allen at the entrance, to Barb Bell on desserts and to our newest water and coffee distributor, Rev. Sandra Yule.

Don Betts

Standing in the middle of the road is dangerous. You can get knocked down by traffic coming from both directions.



Fallowfield Pancake Breakfast



The men of Fallowfield served a big breakfast of pancakes and sausages after the church service April 10. .

Ashley Good captured a few photographs of the high jinks, which were an inevitable part of the occasion.



The Goulbourn Grans

The Goulbourn Grans are one of many groups that have come together to raise funds in support of African grandmothers who are raising grandchildren orphaned by the AIDS epidemic.

These groups have formed under the aegis of the "Grandmothers to Grandmothers" campaign of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. This movement has spread out from Canada to other countries as people have become aware of the impossible stresses confronting their African sisters.

On May , Sue Lopez of the Goulbourn Grans came to Merivale to tell the Merivale Fellowship Group and friends about the activities of the Grans.

The occasion started out with a potluck luncheon in the newly re-decorated CE Hall, then settled down for an account of the work the Grans are doing in their very important cause.

The Goulbourn Grans achieve great satisfaction in helping to amend a very bad situation.

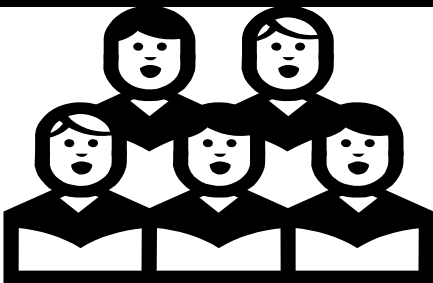


Isobel Strath with Sue Lopez

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

The Choir



The first months of 2009 have been busy for the Fallowfield/Merivale choir. Our organist, Katelynn Boerner, has been talking university courses in England, and is enjoying the culture and education very much. In her absence, we are thrilled that Barb White has been able to play at both churches each week. This has meant that the choir has been able to present quite a few more pieces than we generally do. We also spent a

great deal of time on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter pieces, and helped Merivale celebrate its anniversary on May 3rd.

The annual Men's Choir presented several old-time pieces on Mother's Day at Fallowfield and two weeks later at Merivale. The men are so warmly received that it is easier to persuade them to come out another time!!

On the few occasions that Barb has been unavailable, we are so pleased that Joan Peterkin has agreed to play for both churches. Thank you, Joan!

We have all been concerned about one of our talented sopranos, Barb Bell, and we are so delighted that she continues to make good pro-

gress in her recuperation. Your place is waiting for you whenever you are ready, Barb!

The choir has been practicing for Pentecost, as well as Fallowfield's anniversary, and then we will be taking a bit of a break over the summer. Of course, any of us who are around on summer Sundays are encouraged to sing in the choir loft as support for the hymns.

We will commence practices, probably in late August, to be ready for the annual outdoor service. Anyone who would like to join the choir would be warmly welcomed.

Barb Fraser

Hall Renovations

2008 saw many changes to the CE hall of Merivale United. The aging floor which had withstood all the wear of the last 40 years had finally had enough and became the catalyst for a complete renovation. The ceiling was patched and painted, decades of tape, the remnants of hung decorations from many happy events, was peeled from the walls. The walls were repainted in the same colours as the church sanctuary. The old single pane windows were replaced with new double-pane, vinyl windows from Scheel Windows of Arnprior; that made an immediate difference to the heat retention of the building.

Some major changes were made to the layout of the kitchen. The door was moved from the top of the stairs to a safer location around the corner. The cupboards that had previously run along this wall were rotated to one side to make room for the new opening. The bulkhead that had divided the ceiling of the

kitchen in two was removed, making the space seem more open and bright. The kitchen cabinets were repainted to complement the new wall colour, and some of the electrical wiring was redone. In the vestibule of the hall the wall colour was continued, and a new chandelier hung, greatly increasing the space's light. The railing on the stairs was painted to match the main doors, and of course the original floor of the hall was replaced with a new one that we hope will see as many memories.

For all their hard work and enthusiasm on this project, Merivale United would like to thank:

Dave Cooney, Joanne Frolek, Mike Jean-Louis, Vera Hamman, Chuck Ross, Jean Stalker, Arlene, Jim and Natalie Anderson, as well as



the council and congregation as a whole for their support. If we have forgotten anyone our apologies, thank you also for

all the kind words of encouragement – many hands truly do make light work!

The hall is looking great, but we haven't quite finished yet. Changes still to come include: crown mould-

ing, a new fridge, new curtains and a rail for the quilters to hang their beautiful work, finishing touches of paint in the kitchen and on the railing, and renovation of the downstairs rooms that

have not already been redone. Volunteers are more than welcome!

Arlene Anderson



Too many clothes?

Why not share with the folks who look to 'Centre 507' or 'The Well' for help and encouragement.

There are boxes at both churches where you can drop things off.

Merivale Sunday School

It has been an exciting year for the Sunday School of Merivale United, watching the children learn and grow. The class diminished in size (and in proportion of members interested in colouring) with the move of Ainslee and Tiernan to Kitchener, but the nursery seemed as full as ever with Petrina and Amy becoming more capable every week.

Sunday school usually begins with the boys, Maxwell and Ben, constructing networks of train tracks, playing with cars, or with building blocks before a bible story and craft. The little girls are beginning now to take in the stories, but are generally more interested in the toys. Both of them are always interested in trying the crafts with their brothers.

Favourite moments from the Merivale Sunday School:

- The first week Amy had her new glasses she instantly learned to push them up her nose for a studious look.
- Petrina's never tiring of running back and forth to the washroom to practice her new skill of washing her hands.
- During children's time at the front of the church: Rev. Yule to Maxwell- 'And do you have any pets?' Maxwell-'No, just Petrina.'

(According to Joanne this has to do with learning to spell Petrina's name, P-E-T...)

- Easter Sunday at the front of the church: Rev. Yule to the children-'Did anything special happen this morning?' Ben, very quietly-'Jesus rose.' Rev. Yule-'Did the Easter Bunny come?'
- On Anniversary Sunday our small group grew from four to around ten. The girls enjoyed making beaded necklaces and bracelets with buttons. They were especially enchanted that some of the buttons were made of 'mother-of-pearl'. Instant friendships were made over the fact that everyone watches Thomas the Tank Engine on TVO Kid's Treehouse.
- "Why did you leave me for so long!" -A perturbed Maxwell when Rachael returned from university.

A special thank you to everyone who has helped out in the Nursery, Joanne, Terry, Natalie, Rachael and Erica!

Best wishes for the summer,

Arlene Anderson

Fallowfield Sunday School-

Greetings from Fallowfield Sunday School! We began this year with a hello and a goodbye: Kent Fraser joined as a teacher — Welcome Kent! At the same time, Erica Armstrong, teacher and superintendent for the last 3 years, stepped down, but is still helping out—thank you Erica! Jen Keech has now assumed the role of superintendent.

We spent September and October getting into the swing of things. In November, the Sunday School participated in the Remembrance Day service by reading a poem. As we closed 2008, the Sunday School had yet another successful White Gift service thanks to Barb Fraser. Thanks to all the parents and kids for helping out and making it so much fun!

The winter and spring have flown by — Easter was enjoyed with games and crafts and Mother's Day allowed the children to say thank you to mom with beautiful butterfly magnets, donated by the Goods - thank you Don and Elly. As we wind down for the year we're looking forward to Sundae Sunday on Father's Day (June 21st!), as well as the year end picnic at Jock Park (June 28th).

We will be having our Annual Yard Sale and Bake Table on Saturday June 13th from 9:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m. On Friday June 12th between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m we will be sorting and preparing for the Saturday morning set up. If you are able to volunteer on either date, we would love to have you! Any donations can be dropped off at the church between now and June 12th.

Thanks to everyone for a wonderful year. Have a safe and happy summer and we'll see you in the fall.

Jennifer Keech
Superintendent

Merivale Quilters

The Merivale Quilters have begun planning for our Biennial Quilt Show to be held October 17th, 2009. Annette and Shirley called a meeting at the tea/coffee break on May 20th and got the group excited about the project. Committees will be formed and ideas formulated so that some of the preparatory work can begin before summer holidays interfere. We will be looking for quilts to show, and hope that many will be new to our display. If you know of any in trunks or closets in the homes of your family or friends, please tell someone in our group.

We will continue to meet each Wednesday morning throughout the summer to work on a number of quilt tops which are in progress. Three are of particular interest: another Cross-stitch full-sized one, a larger, multicoloured Tumbling Blocks one, (both to be available for purchase), and a small personal one created by the group to mark our 25th Anniversary.

During this winter, we have boasted a group of about 18 at work. Sadly, we lost one of our

long-time quilters early in 2009 with the death of Inger Nielsen. We continue to welcome visitors.



Tumbling Blocks

Sandra Marshall

*"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass;
it's about learning to dance in the rain."*

Congratulations



On May 15, Fallowfield witnessed a joyful ceremony marking the union of Grace Glastonbury and Seymour Kell. The officiating minister was the Very Reverend Marion Pardy, a former moderator of the United Church of Canada and a friend of the bride. Seymour's daughter read from the Bible that the church had presented to the couple. *Photo by Ashley Good.*

Baptisms

A warm welcome to the babies who have recently been baptised into the church:

- **Madison Judy Moran**, daughter of Nathalie and Matthew Moran, and granddaughter of Ken and the late Judy Moran, baptised April 12, 2009.(F)
- **Adison Frances Gillis**, daughter of Kelly and Christopher Gillis and granddaughter of Lee and Gloria Gartle, baptised April 12, 2009. (F)
- **Robert Ian Karl Pemberton** son of Scott Pemberton and Laura Johnstone, baptised May 2, 2009.(M)
- **Paige Ruthie Katherine Phinney**, daughter of Katherine and Tyler Phinney, baptised at home

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Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of those of our number who have recently passed away.

- **Ernest Albert 'Bert' Brookes** Bert died Monday, May 25, 2009 at the age of 86. Our deepest sympathy to Jean Brookes and other members of the family.

He was for many years on Church committees, and, since he lived around the corner, we drove together. Bert did not miss many and in his quiet manner was a great influence in matters pertaining to the Church. Of late, he was part of the Greeting/Ushering, but he was always going around giving out candy.

A few months ago Rev. Gord Roberts was giving us help with our Pastoral Relations Committee. Somehow Bert's name came up, and Gord mentioned that one time his daughter Katrina (she was a baby here), said that she remembered Bert as the man who gave out the candy! What a great way to be remembered-- the man who gave!

Chuck Ross

Neil Henry Stalker Neil died on January 22, 2009 at the age of 78. He was previously a member of St. Marc's French United Church and Bell's Corners United Church. He was the husband of the Merivale Newsletter coordinator, Jean Stalker and the father of Heather and Alison.

Inger Nielsen died March 29, 2009 in Guelph, Ontario. She and her husband Andreas migrated to Ottawa from Denmark and raised a family of two boys and three girls. Inger's culinary skills were legendary. She was also a dedicated quilter, with many beautiful works to her credit. Her courage in continuing her creative work, in spite of severe health problems, was an inspiration to all of us. She laid down her knitting needles only four days before her death.

Gwen Best Gwen, a retired teacher, moved from Elliott Lake to Ottawa to be with her family and became a member of Merivale United Church. She seemed a gentle presence among us, but we were often surprised by her unshakable integrity and her dry sense of humour. She is famous as the brave soul who instructed the minister to recite the Lord's Prayer at a slower pace.



SUMMER

There will be worship services at the usual hours (9:30 am at Fallowfield, 11:00 am at Merivale) over the summer months. Weather permitting, both churches plan to serve "lemonade-on-the-lawn" every Sunday after the service.

You might want to circle **September 13** on your calendar. On that date, there will be a joint service, outdoors (if weather permits) at Merivale, in celebration of our 54th anniversary as a pastoral charge. There will be special music and a luncheon after the service. Don't miss it.

Did You Know?

ALS Fundraiser: On May 30, Bud Cummings took part in a walk to raise funds for the ALS Society of Ontario. ALS is also known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's disease. The Society provides equipment and support services to people suffering from ALS, and also funds research. If you would like to help, it's not too late. You could give Bud a cheque made out to the ALS Society of Ontario.



Merivale Rental Coordinator: Vera Hamman has accepted the responsibilities of rental coordinator, taking over from Dave Cooney, who filled this function for many years.



Lost key, anyone? Someone left a key in the lock at Fallowfield? If you are the one, contact Don Betts on 613-823-3006.



Golden Anniversaries: Congratulations to David and Barbara Bell, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 30, 2009 and to Merrill and Helen Wilson, married 50 years, as of July 4, 2009.



Ruskins on the Move: Glenn Ruskin has accepted a job offer from a company in Calgary, and the Ruskin family is packing for the big move. Brett, however, will be staying in Ottawa to finish the requirements for his degree in journalism. The Ruskins have contributed greatly to the life of Merivale United Church, and they will be greatly missed. There will be an opportunity to wish them well after church at Merivale on June 21, 2009.



Pastoral Relations: On May 17, the two congregations decided unanimously to extend Rev. Yule's contract to the end of December 2009.



Merivale Centennial Garden: The annuals in the church garden this year are Celosia 'Fresh Look', Million Bells 'Tangerine' and Begonia 'Whiskey Cocktail'. Thanks to all those who braved rainy weather to help the gardeners with the planting. We predict that your efforts will be well rewarded.



Congratulations to Jackie Kawaja, who is graduating June 25 from York University with special honours in English. She plans to stay at home for a year, then return to York for a master's degree.



Special Visitor: On May 31, Penny-Lynn Cookson worshiped with the Merivale congregation. We learned that she is the great granddaughter of Rev. Robert Whillans, who was our minister at the time that the church was built in 1875/76.



Dan Hayward, the stand-up comedian who provided the entertainment at "Fallowfield Eats Out" is now Rev. Dan Hayward. He was ordained June 7, and will be at Orleans United Church. Lucky Orleans!

Calendar of Events—June to December 2009	
June 5, 6, 7	Montreal-Ottawa Conference of the United Church of Canada meets in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC. Delegates from Merivale/Fallowfield include: Rev. Sandra Yule, Ruth Kawaja and Irene Mowat. Chuck Ross and Sue Deschamps will lead the worship service in both churches.
Wednesday, June 10	Official Board of the Pastoral Charge meets at Merivale, 7:15 pm.
Saturday, June 13	Fallowfield Sunday School Yard Sale (F). 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.
Sunday, June 14	Fallowfield anniversary service and brunch. Service cancelled at Merivale to allow the congregation to celebrate with Fallowfield.
Tuesday, June 16	Fallowfield Council meeting 7:15 pm.
Wednesday June 17	Bus trip to view the lady slipper orchids in the Purdon Conservation Area. Trip includes lunch at the Cove Country Inn and shopping in Westport. To register, call 613-723-5701 and ask for Sue. Cost \$89.00.
Sunday, June 21	Fathers' Day Melissa and Amanda Lapensée will be singing at both churches. Social gathering after the worship service to honour the Ruskins, who are moving to Calgary.
Sunday, June 28	Family Day Picnic at Fallowfield (?)
July, August	Lemonade on the lawn after the worship service, weather permitting
Wednesday, August 12	Corn-on-the cob at Merivale 5:00 pm, Watch for updates in the church bulletins; date depends on the corn crop. All welcome.
Thursday, August 27	Planning meeting for the Fallowfield turkey supper.
Sunday, September 13	Anniversary of the Pastoral Charge. Outdoor service in the park behind the CE Building at Merivale, followed by luncheon.
Sunday, September 27	Coffee after the worship service at Merivale.
Saturday, October 03	Fallowfield Turkey Supper, starting at 4:30 pm.
Sunday, October 04	World Wide Communion at both churches; Pie Sunday, at Fallowfield.
Sunday, October 11	Thanksgiving Sunday.
Saturday, October 17	Quilt Show at Merivale.

Sunday, October 25	Coffee after the worship service at Merivale.
Sunday, November 01	Coffee after the worship service at Fallowfield.
Saturday, November 07	Bean supper at Merivale.
Sunday, November 08	Remembrance Sunday.
Tuesday, November 24	Candlelight service and cookie exchange at Fallowfield.
Sunday, November 29	First Sunday of Advent. Coffee after the worship service at Merivale.
Sunday, December 6	Second Sunday of Advent. White Gift Sunday and Christmas Potluck at Fallowfield.
Sunday, December 13	Third Sunday of Advent.
Sunday, December 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent; Holy Communion at both churches.
Thursday, December 24	Christmas Eve Worship services at both churches; times to be announced.
Sunday, December 27	Coffee after the worship service at Merivale (M).



Merivale-Fallowfield Newsletter

Issued at irregular intervals by the Merivale-Fallowfield Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada

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