



# St. John's Newsletter

February 2020

## A message from our Minister

*...but really? Who doesn't like pancakes?*

This coming Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday. The day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. It may seem like a strange tradition to eat pancakes on this one, particular day; so where does the custom come from and what is a shrove anyway? To prepare for the 40 days of fasting during Lent, Christians of the Middle Ages would go to confession on the eve of Ash Wednesday and be *shriven* (*past tense of the word "shrove"*) or receive absolution for their sins. They would then return to their homes and remove all those things that were forbidden during the fast: things such as eggs, sugar and fat – the ingredients of pancakes. The best way to remove these things was to eat them. In other parts of the world, the consumption of all these forbidden ingredients led to huge celebrations known as *Carnival* or *Mardi Gras* (*French for Fat Tuesday*).

Within the church, Lent is associated with the colour purple – and is a time of penitence during which Christians are encouraged to reflect upon Jesus' suffering on the cross and the price with which our salvation has been won. The Lenten fast or "giving something up for Lent" was part of that commemoration.

So now you know! And enjoy your pancakes. It's a long way to Easter.

Blessings.

*"Knowing, Enjoying and Sharing Christ's Love With All"*

St. John's Presbyterian Church  
Reverend Robert Adams, Minister  
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# Upcoming Events

## **Lenten Prayer Service**

**Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

## **Lenten Book Study**

**Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

## **Lenten Book Study**

**Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.**

## **Communion**

**Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

## **Lenten Prayer Service**

**Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

## **Lenten Book Study**

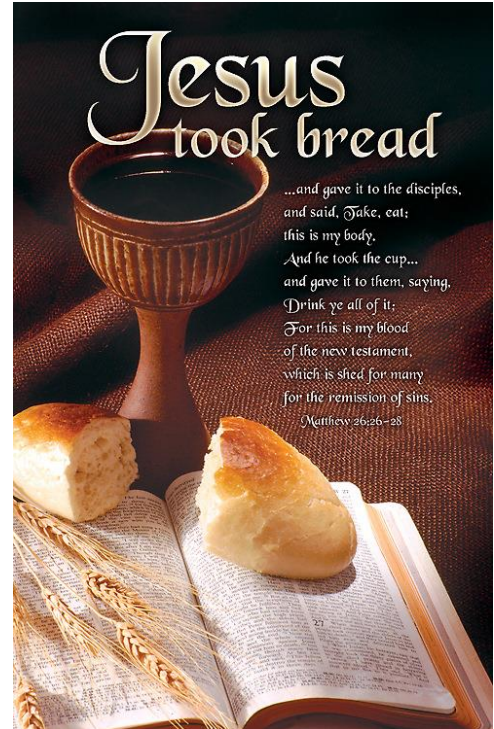
**Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

## **Lenten Book Study**

**Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.**

## **Watoto Childrens' Choir Concert**

**Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**



## Dutch Girl Quilt: made by Colleen Cox

Colleen Anna Henry was the eldest child of Wendell Henry and Hilda Shaver. Her siblings were Donald, Eleanor and Evan. Wendell was the third generation of his family to farm the 50 acres just southeast of Berwick. Hilda grew up on the Shaver farm, just several miles away at St Luke's Corners. Colleen's Grandmother, Hattie Belle McMartin Henry, also lived with the family, as Wendell had to run the farm after Hattie Belle's husband had died accidentally.

As a good Presbyterian, one was not allowed to smoke, drink or play cards. Once the farm chores were complete, Hattie Belle taught Colleen how to sew, knit, embroider, needlepoint, quilt, crochet and tat. The Dutch Girl quilt was made during Colleen's teenage years. As times were tight at the end of the Depression, the materials used were a sheet and pieces of worn out dresses. The quilt is 81" x 65" with 32 multi-coloured figures.



Once made, the quilt was used in a bedroom heated only by a stove pipe from the wood burning kitchen stove below. As the materials were already well used, the quilt soon started to pull apart and some of the skirts came off in the wash. Once Colleen married, the quilt was no longer needed and it was retired to her cedar chest, where it remained for the next 60 years. Colleen made many more quilts, but never returned to repair the first one she made in her youth.



Nick Cox and Marian MacRae holding Colleen's Dutch Girl Quilt at the WOC Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

In 2020, Robynne Dorion of Cornwall managed to find enough matching material and had the skill to repair the tears and replace the missing skirts. It is now on display on the spare bed instead of hiding away in the cedar chest. Today the pattern is known as Sunbonnet Sue.



## Sunday School News

**The Sunday school program is happy to announce that the children's offering from the fall of 2019 was donated to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. We will collect Sunday School offerings again for the winter season.**



## Recognition of Service

On a beautiful Sunday morning in January, Reverend Adams took the time to honour Carol Esdale who served for the past several years as Clerk of Session. Carol submitted her resignation in December and it was accepted with regret by the members of Session. We are very fortunate that she is willing to remain on Session as the Deputy Clerk.

Reverend Adams presented Carol with a gift card to St. Hubert as well as a plant, as a small token of our appreciation for all the work she has done for us. Thank you Carol!



From left: Cynthia Seguin, Carol Esdale and Reverend Adams.

# Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Les Foulds!

On Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, St. John's congregation had the pleasure of celebrating with Les Foulds' on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. The party began prior to the service with Katalin Kennedy pinning a boutonniere on Les as we sang happy birthday. A special coffee hour was held following the service, at which time Reverend Adams presented Les with a gift from the congregation. During the celebration photos were taken and a package was presented to Les to use in a picture frame he was given. Everyone enjoyed a piece of cake following the luncheon.





## News from the Women of the Church

The Women of the Church held their annual meeting on January 22, 2020.

The kitchen stove exhaust system has been cleaned. We have been informed that the fan only needs to be on when the stove is in use. Thank you to Kitchen Convenor, Connie Gaucher, for her work on this issue.



Our fall luncheon and bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost of this event is \$14.00. It is hoped that the Saturday date will allow more people to come and enjoy this day.

The profits from Fundscrip will be allocated at the meeting in September. It was agreed that in order to assist the Board of Managers with some of the operating costs of the church, the WOC will pay for the elevator maintenance up to \$2,000.00 and have allocated \$5,000.00 for the church insurance policy, which will be due in December. Annual charitable donations this year will be made to Hospice, Baldwin House, the Children's Treatment Centre and the Glen-Stor-Dun lodge November birthday party.

A spring Card Luncheon has been planned for Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Bridge is a popular game and this event will sell out quickly, so watch for tickets to go on sale. Card players are welcome to come and play other games aside from bridge.

Don't forget that fruit pies, tarts and chicken pot pies are available in the hall outside the office every Sunday morning after service.

The WOC Executive are:

Co-Chairs: Betty McConnell and Phyllis Bateman

Secretary: Johneen Rennie

Treasurer: Heather McCleary

Sunshine Convenor: Joan Painter

Kitchen Convenor: Connie Gaucher

Special Projects Convenor: Various, with Bev Hope in an advisory role

Bazaar and Luncheon Convenor: Carolyn Colquhoun

Fundscrip: Connie Gaucher and Gail MacDougall

Members at Large: Carolyn Wolff, Shirley Carson, Karin Conradt-Boch



## Baptism

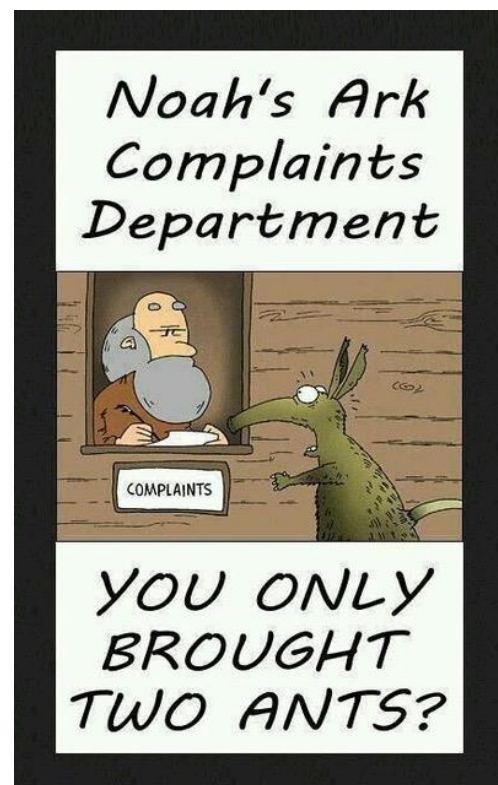
On Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, family and friends gathered at St. John's to witness the baptism of Heathyr Smith. Dan Plant presented his long-time friend to

Reverend Adams for the sacrament. Heathyr, and her soon to be husband Raphael Rof, will be residing in Germany where Heathyr has been pursuing her studies in music.



From left: David Gellately, Dan Plant, Heathyr Smith, Debbie Plant, Howard and Darlene Smith.

## A little Noah Humour...



**Scripture Readers**

Willing to read the scriptures on a Sunday morning? Please contact the Office Administrator Lisa Angus at the church at 613-932-8693.

**Sunday School Teachers**

Would you like to help on a Sunday morning by teaching a class? If you are interested, please contact Carolyn Colquhoun at 613-933-9102.

**Pastoral Care Visitors**

Looking for people to make hospital and nursing home visits. Will suit your schedule! If interested, please contact Johnneen Rennie at 613-933-3252.

**Newsletter Team Members**

Are you technologically savvy? Do you like to write or take photos? Then this team might be for you! The newsletter comes out 4 times a year. Please contact Cynthia Seguin at 613-936-8188 for more information

**Choir Members**

Can you sing? The Choir is looking for more members. Practice is on Sunday. For more information please speak to Gary Postma after service or arrive in the choir room at 9:35 a.m. any Sunday morning!

**Youth Night Volunteers**

Do you have a skill, talent, gift or great idea for the youth? We are looking for individuals willing to organize one night for the Thursday youth group. For more information, call Trish Brown at 613-363-3030.

**Door Greeters**

Want to welcome people to church? This position is available! You can choose to do one Sunday or a month of Sundays. If you are interested, please contact Cynthia Seguin at 613-936-8188.

**Elevator Operators**

If you are okay going up and down, this job is for you. This important job makes our sanctuary accessible for all. Can you do one Sunday, or a few? Please contact Bev Ferguson at 613-933-8394.

**Prayer Chain Volunteers**

Volunteers need to be added to the prayer chain. You will be placed in the chain to receive and send a phone call for someone in need of a prayer. For information contact Johnneen Rennie at 613-933-3252.

**Sound Technicians**

Help is needed on the sound board on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in learning about this piece of equipment, and volunteering your time some Sunday mornings, please contact Dan Plant at 613-932-4845.