

FROM REV. KELLY'S DESK

The other day I walked out of church, just after the children from Our Lady of Grace School had been dismissed for the day. It was a gorgeous day - what I grew up calling a "large day": big, seemingly endless blue sky and a warm gentle breeze. I was heading out purposefully, with a still as yet uncompleted to-do list. But I couldn't help noticing two of the older students on the swings - laughing as they played. I smiled and called out, "That looks like fun!" as I walked on toward my car.

They immediately responded "It is!" And then they shouted, "You should come and try it! Come on - come and try!"



When's the last time you were on a swing?

No - not the front porch kind of swinging bench - but a real honest to goodness swing?

I couldn't remember either.

But I highly recommend it.

Swinging back and forth, feeling warm air brushing my skin, the sun on my face, the children laughing beside me - it was impossible not to smile!

And you know, the whole day took on a new appearance to me.

Of course it wasn't the day that was changed - I was the one who was changed.

I remembered what it is to stop and be attentive to the joys of the day;
to notice the small and simple pleasures that life presents us;
to remember, even for a moment, what it is to play;
and deepest of all, to recall that God who created the Sabbath for us, delights in our play.

It was a couple of school children who called me - but wasn't it more than that? Wasn't it God calling me?
Isn't God always calling us - calling us to stop, and pay attention to the grand gift of a day, or a moment?

When God calls you this summer: to play tag with your grandchild,
or walk through a garden,
or sit on the dock,
or just be lost in a book,
when you find yourself chiding yourself for not doing something more constructive
stop!

Stop and send up a prayer of Thanksgiving to the One who made you, and loves you, and delights in your joy -
and then jump on that swing!

May your summer bring you peace,

With love,

Rev. Kelly

THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE



When we count our many blessings, it isn't hard to see
That life's most valued treasures are the treasures that are free.

For it isn't what we own or buy that signifies our wealth,
It's the special gifts that have no price - our family, friends and health.

(Submitted by Betty Barker)

INTRODUCING RUTH LANDERS



Anna Ruth Dingle, a “Leap Year Baby”, was born on February 29, 1936 in Spanish Ship Bay, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia, one of six children. Her father was a sea captain and when Ruth was four years of age, he had an opportunity to be employed as a captain on the car ferry between Mulgrave and Port Hawkesbury. So the family settled in Port Hawkesbury and since that time the Cape Bretoners have labelled Ruth as a “Cape Breton Wannabe”.

The two older children were kept busy during their early teen years, John working in a grocery store from the age of 14, and Dorothy, his twin sister, helping their mother in the house while Ruth and her younger siblings, Max, Duncan and Jeannie played outdoors all day long, going inside just for meals. The children shared a bicycle but were warned that if there were any arguments over it, the bike would be long gone. They took the threat seriously so there was never a problem.

The children never missed a Sunday at church. They attended the morning service, Sunday School in the afternoon, and the service in the evening. When Ruth was old enough, she joined the Junior Choir and at one time there were four of her siblings in the Senior Choir.

In her younger teen years she loved spending time in the kitchen, learning to cook and helping her mother make jam and preserving the vegetables from their large garden for each long winter ahead and she still loves to cook!

Ruth and her siblings received their education from primary grade to grade eleven in a four-room schoolhouse. There was no grade twelve. Ruth loved school. She made good marks, receiving honour passes each year and her goal was to be a teacher. When she completed her grade eleven, she wanted to go to St. Peter’s High School, a considerable distance from home, to receive her grade twelve. However, her father asked her if she would stay home for the year to help her mother who was recovering from surgery and she agreed to do so.

Ruth sang in their church choir. One Sunday the local Royal Bank manager sitting in the congregation must have pictured her, now at the age of 18, as a possible bank employee. The very next day he offered her a position in the bank and she accepted, training on the job and receiving regular, but rather meagre, paychecks. Thus her plans to be a teacher soon faded into the background and she worked in the bank for eight years.

Murray Landers, a native of Yarmouth County, who had entered the banking profession as soon as he had completed high school, opened the first branch of the Bank of Montreal in Port Hawkesbury. Ruth’s sister Jeannie, just out of Business School, was hired to be his stenographer. She and her brother Duncan successfully played the part of Cupid and Ruth liked the looks and personality of the new bank manager. The feeling was mutual and they became an item for almost two years. It was a saying in Port Hawkesbury that “there never was a Mountie or a banker who was single when they came to Port Hawksbury, who left single”.

Ruth and Murray were married in 1962 and she chuckles when recalling what she often said to her husband, “You were my ticket out of Port Hawkesbury” ... although she still calls herself a Cape Bretoner at heart. Through the years, when Murray was transferred from bank to bank, they lived in Charlottetown in PEI, St. John’s in Newfoundland, Dartmouth in Nova Scotia where Murray worked in the Divisional Office in Halifax, Chatham in New Brunswick and then in Saint John. At that time a reorganization took place in the Bank of Montreal and Murray was given a choice of where he would like to be transferred. He was to write on his application three choices in the order of preference. He wrote, “1. Fredericton. 2. Fredericton. 3. Fredericton.” It worked! Thus they moved to Fredericton and settled in New Maryland.

Ruth was a stay-at-home Mom. She and Murray had three children and were always proud of the fact that each had graduated from UNB: Shawn from Civil Engineering, Dean from Business, and Heather from Nursing. She laughs when she says that during Shawn’s first three years at UNB, he had three different home addresses!

Ruth loved to sing. No matter where she lived, she always joined the church choir. She and Murray were always active in the church and they volunteered in the life of each community. They made many friends wherever they lived and have kept contact with them through visits, phone calls and Christmas greetings.

Even though the Dingle sibling chain was broken with the passing of their brother John in 1990, Ruth continued to enjoy get-togethers with the large Dingle extended family in the Fredericton area.

For many years the family enjoyed travelling with their trailer to the White Mountains, PEI and the other Maritime Provinces. They made several trips to Victoria, BC when Shawn lived there and they travelled to Florida and Massachusetts where Heather was employed as a nurse. Last winter Ruth took the family to Florida and she was the biggest kid in the group, even enjoying two roller coaster rides! Just recently Ruth visited her brother Max in British Columbia.

Ruth's life took a sudden turn when Murray's health failed and she became his primary care giver for ten years. Sadly he passed away in 2003. Ruth has remained in New Maryland which she has called "home" for the past 27 years.

She looks forward to frequent visits from her daughter Heather who is a nurse in Halifax. She is proud of her sons' children, referring to her grandchildren as "the light of my life". Shawn and Julie's boys are Matthew and Ian, and Dean and Kelly's daughters are Grace and Ella. They enjoy sleep-overs together and Ruth loves to get a chance to baby-sit. Spending time with her family is the highlight of her week.

She can be found at the "Y" swimming pool three times a week with the Aquasize group. She enjoys board games and loves a good laugh. Her friends are very important to her and she loves spending time with them. This is evident in her position as co-chair of the "Friendship Group" with Connie Jones.

Ruth's friends at New Maryland United wish her many years of good health and continued happiness with her family and friends.

WHAT IS A GRANDPARENT?

(written by a class of 8-year-olds)



- Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's.
- A grandfather is a man grandmother.
- Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are old so they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the store and have lots of quarters for us.
- When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars. They show and talk to us about the colour of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on "cracks".
- They don't say, "Hurry up."
- Sometimes grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny underwear, and they can take their teeth and gums out.
- They have to answer questions like, "Why isn't God married?" and "How come dogs chase cats?"
- When they read to us, they don't skip and they don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.
- They know we should have snack-time before bedtime and they kiss us even when we've acted bad.
- They like to spend time with us.
- Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if they don't have television.

(Submitted by Ruth Landers)

A MOTHER'S PRAYER

(Author Unknown)



Please let me keep on going, Lord,
From dawn to setting sun
Till I'm no longer needed
And all my work is done.

Please let me be around to see
My little ones grow strong
And keep my shoulder handy
For their tears when things go wrong.

Please let me make our home a place
They're happy to be in -
And help me by example
To keep them free from sin.

For not until they're all prepared
To face life's rocky road
Does any mother dare to drop
Her burden and her load.

It's only then that she can feel
She's truly earned her rest
As thankfully she whispers, "Lord -
I've done my very best!"
(Submitted by Ruth Landers)



FROM THE GREEN COMMITTEE

The Green Committee started a Book Exchange in April and it has garnered considerable interest. The books will not be displayed regularly through the summer, as has been the past two months. However, because summer is a time when many people read, please help yourself to books. They are kept in boxes under the back pew near Rev. Kelly's office. Feel free to take some home, read them and return them or bring in some of your own for exchange.

During the month of June, Ann Urquhart provided us with some tips for lawn and garden. Remember to leave grass clippings on your lawn as they add nutrients to the soil and stimulate earthworm activity. Both help create a healthy lawn.

The Green Committee wishes everyone a happy and relaxing summer. As you enjoy the warmth and sunshine (if it ever gets here), remember the three "R's": **Reduce**, **Reuse** and **Recycle**.



HATS OFF!



~ to our Rev. Kelly who is the chair elect for Woolastook Presbytery, commencing her role in June, 2012 for a two-year period.

~ to the ladies of the UCW who conducted the Sunday Service on May 29th while Rev. Kelly was attending Maritime Conference. The theme "These Are A Few Of My Favourite Hymns" was very well received.

~ to Dorothy Webster and the Elm City Echoes on their success in the Area 1 competition. The chorus came 3rd in the competition, the best the chorus has ever placed. The directors won the trophy for the most improved score over last year. "The Meadowlarks", one of the quartets from the chorus, are the new Area I Quartet Champions and the chorus won the History Book Contest.

~ to Adam Tracy and his Dad for keeping the grounds and cemetery so beautifully mowed.

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



As most of you know, Jennifer Hansen has tendered her resignation as Music Director. We wish her well. We are delighted to announce that Karen Rutledge will be continuing on with us as our accompanist, not only this summer, but through the coming year as well. We are also equally delighted to have Dorothy Webster directing us.

The last Sunday for the choir to perform before their summer break is June 26. We would like to encourage members of the congregation and/or your visiting relatives, who would like to sing a solo, duet, trio etc. to please contact Dorothy Webster. Our year-end choir BBQ party will be held at David & Lorraine Ward's cottage on Saturday, June 25th at 3pm. Have a safe and wonderful summer!



REMINDER FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

Please keep Sunday, October 16th open for our annual Salmon Supper. We will be calling on the folks at NMUC to help make this a success again this year.

MISSIONS



The NMUC mission givings are down somewhat from last year. Slipping an extra \$ in your envelope each Sunday will give our total a nice boost!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



The Sunday School year ended this past Sunday. A social was held following the church service with everyone enjoying the hot dogs and ice cream sundaes. During the afternoon, the Sunday School attended the movie "Kung Fu Panda II" - a big hit with everyone! Have a great summer and see you all in September!



FROM THE NURSERY



Today is the last Sunday for nursery care. A **BIG** thank you goes out to all those who have helped in the nursery this past year. Parents were pleased to know that their little ones were in such good care.

REMINDER FROM THE UCW

Looking ahead!

Please mark on your calendar: Thurs., Oct. 27th - Bridge Luncheon Fund Raiser.



WHERE HAVE ALL THE GRANDMAS GONE?



In the dim and distant past when life's tempo wasn't so fast,
Grandma used to rock and knit, crochet, tat and baby-sit.
When the kids were in a jam, they could always count on Gram.
But today she's in the gym, exercising to keep slim.
She's checking the web or surfing the net, sending e-mail or placing a bet.
Nothing seems to stop or block her ... now that Grandma's off her rocker.

(Submitted by Carol Charters)

THE NMUC SPRING FUNDRAISER



The Spring Fund Raiser has received \$6730.00 in donations to date. However, it is anticipated that it will total approximately \$7000.00 which will match the total of donations received last year. The Committee of Stewards would like to thank all who have donated to this important fund raiser to date. If you have not donated as of yet, it is not too late. Please enclose your donation in your envelope and mark under "Special" the amount donated to the Spring Fund Raiser.

THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER



A subscription of the "Observer" has been donated to the congregants of New Maryland United Church. It is available to borrow by anyone interested, perhaps on a weekly basis. The latest edition is clipped on the bulletin board at the back door. Just jot your name on the index card above it.

CAMP WOOLASTOOK



Camp Woolastook pamphlets are available at the back door. Please note: The U.C.W. has offered to sponsor a child to attend camp for a week this summer. For more information, call the church office at 459-3313 or see Rev. Kelly.



Now that summer is quickly approaching, the Committee of Stewards would like to remind the congregation that the church needs your continued support over the summer months so that it can meet its financial obligations. If you are planning to be absent for an extended period of time, please consider providing your donations beforehand to Allen Parlee or consider PAR (pre-authorized remittance). If interested in PAR, please contact Allen.

(Submitted by Keith Ball, Committee of Stewards)

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday services from July 3rd until September 4th will begin at 10 a.m.

On September 11th the start time will return to 11 a.m.



Rev. Kelly will be absent from the pulpit during part of her summer and we wish her a wonderful well-deserved break with lots of R & R. We are pleased that her capable pulpit supply will be Peter Dickinson on July 24th & 31st and August 7th & 21st.

AN ARCHIVAL MOMENT



1959: A basement was constructed under the church. A choir loft was added and the vestibule and altar area were enlarged. An oil furnace and new chimney were installed. While the renovations were being done, church services were held in the Victoria Hall.

CONGRATULATIONS!

At the Fredericton Quilt Guild's "Thoughts of Spring" Quilt Show held in New Maryland at the end of April, our own Alice Kirkpatrick was a winner! Her quilt, "Irises" won the Viewer's Choice award. This quilt has a bit of a story behind it. The top was cross-stitched and pieced by Alice's sister Connie O'Leary before she passed away. Alice decided to complete the quilt to give to Connie's daughter. It was hand-quilted by Alice, with help from her daughter Joyce Humble, her sister Marie MacKay and friend Betty Nicholson. So although Alice entered it in the Show, it was a collaborative effort on the part of all four ladies. It is a beauty ... and obviously the Quilt Show visitors thought so too! Congratulations, Alice!



Betty, Joyce, Alice

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



The MS Walk 2011 was a huge success! Although there were threatening clouds, the rain held off and everyone enjoyed a great morning. Thanks to the generosity of each donor, "Team Crazy Legs" surpassed our 2010 total and came in at \$8400!! We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being part of our fund raising. I know a cure is round the next corner. Together we will find it!

Pam Gonnason

**Laughter of lilacs, rainbows of roses, songs of the robins, lily of the valley borders,
sunshine to warm the heart, oh what joy this season does impart!**

(A.M. Lindberg)