

FROM THE MINISTER'S DESK

How I spent my summer vacation.....

Remember that essay question that would greet you as you started back to school in September? Sometimes it was printed on the board in that always perfect teacher's printing (– or perhaps that elusive perfect cursive!) Even downstairs at Our Lady of Grace School, there it was on the board

So...how was your summer? I know, I know: TOO SHORT!
And wet, for those of you who stayed in New Brunswick.



My three weeks in Ireland left me feeling very much like a kid again. It was the grandest of adventures for someone who has never been off this continent. And so we immersed ourselves in the whole experience: gorgeous green hills, delightful hospitality, village pubs where you were welcomed as a local, driving on the left side of the road (which of course was the right side of the road), and even trying my hand at the bodhran, And did I mention the weather was perfect?!

I think I really understand now why our English word “holiday” has, as its root, the word *holy*. My time away in Ireland felt very much like holy time. In part, it came from knowing that we were walking where our ancestors had walked. But it was also about being welcomed into a church by a smiling woman offering a bulletin, and discovering that folks had been worshipping in this very place for over a thousand years. It was standing among the trees and the ancient ruins and suddenly knowing that you were in a “thin place:” where the veil between heaven and earth is gossamer thin a holy place.



But it also came from the very sense of being in time set apart – sacred time – Sabbath time. A time for rest and renewal to which God expects us all to attend. And what a wondrous effect it has! Rather than yearning for summer to continue on, I am greeting the fall with anticipation and energy and joy! I can hardly wait to see all that lies ahead for us here at New Maryland United.

I hope your summer has given you even a taste of God's refreshment, and that you are ready to see what God has in store for us this fall!

Slainte!

Kelly

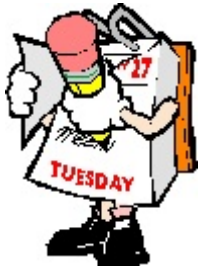
FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Our choir is back in the loft and busy practising anthems for our Sunday Services. Dorothy Webster is acting as choir director this year and her niece Karen Rutledge is our pianist. Dorothy, Rev. Kelly, and Sharon Noel have been busy planning anthems that will reflect and enhance the message for each Sunday.

We will once again be joining the choir from Gagetown/Grand Lake Pastoral Charge to present a lively song at St. Paul's Carolfest on December 7th. This is a yearly fund raiser for the Fredericton Food Bank where choirs and choral groups from all over the city come together, each singing just one song for a wonderful evening of Christmas music. Choir practices are held each Sunday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 am. New members would be warmly welcomed!

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD

As another busy fall season is upon us, the Official Board will be holding one of its quarterly meetings on September 27. Since for some reason there has been uncertainty who is a member of the Official Board, here is the list (it may also be found at the beginning of the last several Annual Reports):



- ~ The Chairman, elected by the congregation at its annual meeting
- ~ All the members of Session
- ~ All the members of the Committee of Stewards
- ~ All the members of the Board of Trustees
- ~ Presbytery Representative
- ~ Minister
- ~ The chairperson of each of the following committees:

Worship; Ministry and Personnel; Christian Development; Men's Club; Nominating Committee; Social Committee; Friendship Group; Mission and Service Representative; Outreach Committee; UCW: Green Committee.

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the chairperson of each committee to ensure that committee is represented at each Board meeting. In addition, if a member of the Board is unable to attend, the Secretary of the Board should be duly notified.

Once again Our Lady of Grace Home School is renting the basement facility of the church from September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. During the summer some members of the Men's Club have repaired the ceiling in the front room, as well as installed new lights, making that rather dark space into a bright, cheery place in which to study. Kudos to the members of the Men's Club. The school has 22 students, beginning from Grade 1, to three students doing independent high school studies. A visit to the school room will reveal a nicely organized study area. In fact, the basement of the church has not looked as nice for a long time. As well, the school leaves the basement clean and neat for our Sunday services. We are fortunate to have an exceptional tenant to use our facility during the week, when otherwise it would remain empty for most of the time.



Bill Elderkin

MISSIONS



It is great to be getting back into the fall schedule and seeing our friends at church again! We look forward to the wonderful music, sermons and fellowship activities that will take place this fall and winter at New Maryland United. As the air turns from crisp to cool to chilly, it is a good time to remember the people who will be cold or lonely this winter. We think of others who do not have enough to eat, a safe place to live but also of a family and community that cares for them. The Mission and Service Fund allows us to share our wealth with others here in Canada and around the world. **Your gifts go where they are needed with a minimum of red tape and cost.** It is an excellent way to support our less fortunate brothers and sisters. Currently, New Maryland United has a proud history of meeting the goals suggested by the national office for our share of the entire annual fundraising total. This year, we have raised \$2,495 to date, which is a really good start. In order to meet our goal of \$4,100 by December 31, givings per Sunday should be \$115. What this means is that we can do it, if we all help out a bit more. So when you are preparing your envelope, please keep the needs of the church community beyond our doors in mind and be as generous as you can. Projects on behalf of the M & S fund are also welcomed.

Lydia LaPointe, M & S Enthusiast for New Maryland United Church

FROM THE UCW

The UCW ladies are busily making plans for the fall. Meetings this year will continue to be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm in various members' homes. Dorothy Webster is acting as President for the upcoming year.

Plans are underway for our biggest fund raiser of the year - a Bridge Luncheon, being held at the New Maryland Centre on Thursday, October 27th from 12 noon to 3pm. A table of 4 can be booked for \$40 which includes a lovely lunch of sandwiches and sweets, as well as a chance at some terrific door prizes and hopefully an afternoon of great cards! We will once again be asking members of the congregation to assist us in the making of sandwiches. Thank you in advance for your wonderful support of our many projects. New members would be very welcome. Call Dorothy at 457-9795 for further info.



FRIENDSHIP GROUP



Once again it's time for our annual trip to Stanley. Reservations have been made at Ellen's Country Kitchen for Monday, September 26th at 12 noon. The menu is Hot Turkey Dinner, squash, broccoli, dressing balls, apple and lemon pie. Cost is \$10.00. We hope you can join us. Please call Ruth Landers (459-3709) or Marjorie Olmstead (459-7328) if you wish to go. We should be able to view the beautiful fall foliage on the drive up and back.

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE



~ The Worship Committee will be decorating the Sanctuary on Saturday, October 8 at 1p.m. in preparation for the Thanksgiving service. Vegetables, flowers, fruits and preserves can be left at the Church during the week (October 3 - 8). The donations will be delivered to the Food Bank after Thanksgiving. We appreciate your support.



~ NMUC will be celebrating its 124th Anniversary on Sunday, November 20. A hot and cold potluck lunch will follow the service.

FROM THE MEN'S CLUB



The Men's Club welcomes all men of the congregation to join us for a time of fellowship. We meet once a month on the first Tuesday at 7pm. Our Salmon Supper is fast approaching Sunday Oct 16th at the New Maryland Centre, sittings 4 and 5 p.m. We can make this a very successful event with everyone's assistance so we hope to involve those who are willing and able. We need ticket sellers, servers, kitchen helpers, and a clean-up crew. Please come forward and help. Give a call to Dave Ward (455-8208) or Jim Merrill (459-5512).

Congratulations!



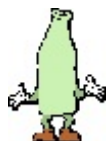
To Don and Nancy Ostaff on the birth of a granddaughter Hannah Sophia, born on July 13th, a daughter to Brad and Natalie McCartney, and a little sister for Hailey and Carter!

THE GREEN THING

In the line at the store, the cashier told an older woman that she should bring her own grocery bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to him and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."



The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment."



He was right — our generation didn't have the green thing in its day. Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled.

But we didn't have the green thing back in our day. We walked up the stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go half a mile.



But that old lady was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day. Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts – wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their sisters or brothers, not always brand-new clothing.

But that old lady is right – we didn't have the green thing back in our day. Back then, we had one TV or radio in the house – not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of the room. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do it for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.



But she's right, we didn't have the green thing back then. We drank from a fountain when we were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time we had a drink of water. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull.

But we didn't have the green thing back then. Back then, people took the train or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mums into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.



But isn't it sad that the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the green thing back then?

AN ARCHIVAL MOMENT

July 1, 1987: The New Maryland United Church took part in Fredericton's Canada Day Parade. Their entry featured a horse and buggy owned and driven by Warren Price with passengers Milton Price, Myrtle Charters and Nell Charters, each one dressed in old-fashioned costumes. A sign on the coach read "New Maryland United Church - 1887-1987".



OUR WEBSITE

The NMUC Website is now available to computer users. It is just a beginning - "a work in progress" so it will be changing as time goes on. Check back periodically to see what is new. Go to www.newmarylanduc.ca to access it. You will even see some past newsletters online.

GREEN COMMITTEE

The "lazy, hazy days of summer" are over; fall is upon us. So it's time to clean the house, the garden, the car, put away summer clothes and prepare for winter, once the pickles, jams and jellies are made! This doesn't mean we have to grab a mop, the vacuum, rake or shovel and dive right in to get it all done in a week or two; the trick is to do a little at a time. For example, pick two rooms, clean all the mirrors and windows in the room using vinegar, water and newspaper, of course.

Another day, sweep the garage floor, basement steps or plant your daffodils; what a cheery greeting that will be in the spring. By doing a little bit every day, there's time left for your family and yourself. You may even have enough spare time to get a book from the Pew Book Exchange which is the pew near the Minister's office. As well, when sorting your clothes, remember to put your good, used clothing (recycle) in the orange boxes such as the one at the ESSO station and the Vanier Co-op. We also welcome book contributions (reuse) for our Exchange. The Green Committee, welcomes you back. Look for Green Tips soon, in the Sunday Bulletin.



HATS OFF!



To the Men's Club for the repairs completed this summer to the school room!

To Betty Barker for awards won for her handicraft entries at THE FREX and THE GAGETOWN FAIR.

To Minnie Foss for awards won for her handicraft and plant entries at the GAGETOWN FAIR.

A GREAT GIFT IDEA!

New Maryland United Church note cards designed by Pam Gonnason are available all year round. They are packaged in units of 6 cards with envelopes and are sold for \$10 each, with \$4 of each unit sold going to Outreach projects. You can choose from a winter design, summer design...or get a package of 3 of each! They are a perfect size for sending that quick little note to someone, make nice little gifts and are a great way to draw attention to our little country church! The note cards are in a basket at each entrance and can be purchased through Lorna or Pam. For more information, please contact Pam at 452-7483 or e-mail <favthing@nbnet.nb.ca>.



COMMUNION DATES

Oct. 16 - UCW to serve

Nov. 20 - Anniversary Sunday

Dec. 18 - Advent 4

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve, 10 pm



OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES



After Susie arrived home from Sunday School, her mother asked her what the lesson was about. The little girl answered, “Don’t be scared. You’ll get your quilt.”

Needless to say, the mother was perplexed. Later in the day the minister stopped by for a visit. The mother asked what that morning’s Sunday School lesson was about. The minister replied, “Do not be afraid. Thy Comforter is coming.”

INTRODUCING PETER DICKINSON



Peter Dickinson was born in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, the son of Ed and Terry Dickinson. His father worked for a finance company which often meant transfers from place to place. Peter was about two years of age when he left Nova Scotia and moved with the family to Charlottetown where his younger brother Michael was born. Then it was on to Fredericton and finally when Peter was of kindergarten age they moved to Woodstock which they now called home.

Peter’s New Brunswick roots are deep. He is proud that he is of Loyalist stock and that he has had family in this province since 1783. Both his Mom and Dad grew up in NB - as did their parents and their parents and so on. It was just a twist of fate that Peter was not born in New Brunswick.

In his youthful years Peter attended Sunday School and was active in the Boy Scout movement, first as a Beaver and then advancing to Cubs and on to Boy Scouts. One of his fond memories throughout his high school years is that of belonging to the St. John Ambulance Cadets, a program enabling young people to learn important life skills in a fun and safe environment. Guided by youth leaders, Peter and his peers studied first-aid courses, enjoyed summer camps, and participated in challenging first-aid competitions between other cadet groups in the province. Peter recalls being judged on their first-aid skills as they treated individuals posing as injured patients, and even travelling as far as Ottawa to participate in a national competition.

As a teenager, Peter participated in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award program. Setting and hoping to achieve his personal goals, he worked towards receiving the coveted medals offered in the program. Among other self-directed activities which he enjoyed, the awards program offered an opportunity to practice his first-aid skills at scouting events and even to provide first-aid service at Old Home Week in Woodstock. Completing the challenging steps in the program, he was awarded both a Bronze and Silver Medal. The Bronze Medal was presented to Peter by the Mayor of Woodstock and he was presented with the Silver Medal at the age of sixteen years by Lieutenant Governor George Stanley at the Legislative Assembly in Fredericton.

Following graduation from grade twelve, he enrolled in the Arts program at UNB, majoring in History. Quoting Peter, he claims, “I had a really good time for two years but accomplished nothing”. Suddenly the working world looked more attractive and so he became employed for approximately five years in the bakery department at Sobeys in Woodstock, working his way up to bakery manager. However, university beckoned again so Peter travelled from Woodstock each day to UNB in Fredericton where he completed his History major, graduating in 2001.

While attending university he worked during the summers on a short contract at Kings Landing Historical Settlement as a Curatorial Assistant at the museum, cataloguing artefacts and doing research projects. After graduating from UNB, it was back to Kings Landing for a full-time position for eight years, first as a Research Historian and finally as an Interpretation Manager, a job he really enjoyed.

Upon leaving Kings Landing, he was employed at the Mactaquac Provincial Park. However, after two years the park changed to seasonal employment with their winter operations coming to a close, forcing Peter to seek employment elsewhere. Before long he was hired at the New Brunswick Provincial Archives as an Archivist, a position he still enjoys, where he is mandated to care for all government records. Each piece of paper that the government produces is forwarded to the Archives which Peter has to deal with, working through a backlog of thousands of boxes of records. There is no end to the work!

Peter's wife Patricia is a marketing consultant, working on contracts from their home in New Maryland. Peter has left behind his baseball and golf activities for a "full time" job of helping Patricia to care for the children, including Julia, 11 years of age, Abbey, 9, Clara, 4 and twin daughters Bronwyn and Willa, age 2 years. However, he does find time to enjoy reading, squeezing it in when possible, his favourite Canadian author being David Adams Richards from the Miramichi.

Peter serves as chair of the Outreach Committee at NMUC. Looking to the future, it is his wish to enter the United Church Ministry. He has already completed his one year of interview sessions with the Discernment Committee at New Maryland United and is now preparing for the next stage, an interview this fall with the United Church Conference Board. He is hoping to become a candidate involved in a ministry based program and eventually after four years of study to receive his Master of Divinity Degree, followed by ordination. Peter's friends at NMUC wish him every success as he strives to reach yet another goal in his life.

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT P.A.R.?



In order to meet our church's financial obligations, your weekly commitment is required. Did you know that you can ensure your weekly offering will be received by the church even if you are absent from the service? To learn more about P. A. R. contact Allan Parlee at 459-8007 or Keith Ball at 455-1948.

HARVEST OF GOLD

See, what a riot of colour!
Hark, what a riot of sound!
Golden grain and golden leaves
Rustling on the ground.
The sun upon the harvest fields,
The gleam of the goldenrod;
Here is the wealth worth hoarding,
Here is the gold of God.

