

THE BEACON

125



Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119: 105

FROM REV. KELLY'S DESK

Every year when each of Job's sons had a birthday, he invited his brothers and sisters to his house for a celebration. On these occasions they would eat and drink with great merriment.

(Excerpt from Job 1:1-5)



Ahhhh, Autumn!

I know, it is always hard to say farewell to summer – it is never quite long enough. But when September arrives with its cooler air, changing leaves, kitchens perfumed by cooks a-pickling, fields of ripening pumpkins and treks to go apple picking – what's not to love?! I think my love of the autumn may also be tied up with childhood memories of so many family birthday celebrations that fell in September and October. And birthdays were *really* celebrated by the Burkes. It meant the extended family gathered around my grandparents' table.

Back then we would all dress up for dinner and the birthday boy or girl got the huge privilege of determining the menu. There would be some bright packages on a side table eagerly waiting to be opened after the meal, but I don't think I could tell you now what gifts I might have received. Instead, it was the birthday cake that sits in my memory. The culmination of the meal was never from a bakery, but made with love by my Nana. Somewhere along the line, she started putting money in the cake. It was nothing more than nickels wrapped in shiny bits of tin foil. It would be frowned upon today as a choking event waiting to happen! But I guess my family liked to live on the edge. We're Irish after all. But when your fork poked into that wrapped coin, it felt like such a treasure to a child. A silly little tradition, but it made birthdays fun, and the whole event made you feel special, that you were indeed someone to be celebrated.



Birthdays are not prominently featured in the Bible. There are fantastic stories of births, to be sure, but only three references to birthdays and two of those are decidedly grim. Pharaoh hanged his chief cook on his birthday, just as Joseph had predicted (Genesis 40:16-23). And dear old Herod celebrated his birthday by beheading John the Baptist (Matthew 14:6-10).

So thank goodness for Job's family, who apparently celebrated birthdays with gusto. Their birthday parties sound almost like ones my Nana would have planned.

Birthdays are worth celebrating it seems to me, not only as a celebration of an individual's life, but also as a celebration of the God who created each of us. Each life is a miracle, so whenever your birthday is, it is a time to offer double praise: both, "Happy birthday!" and, "Thanks be to God!"
Giving thanks for all of your birthdays,

Rev Kelly

CALLING ALL SCRIPTURE READERS!



The reading of our sacred stories lies at the very heart of our worship service. It is where I begin, always, as I move towards planning each Sunday's liturgy. But the story belongs to all of us, as does our gathering together week by week at New Maryland United. And a different voice brings a fresh approach to the Word that is both ancient and ever new. If you would be willing to read scripture from time to time, I would love to add your name to a 'Scripture Readers' list! You would be given the scripture passage (as well as the specific version) in advance, so you will have time to prepare. As well, we will from time to time have multi voiced readings.

While we most often turn to the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, we will also be using other versions on occasion, including the King James or the Message, etc. The NRSV is the best translation of the Hebrew and Greek, which is why I depend upon it. But there are times when another translation is what is best suited to the sermon and theme of worship that day. I hope you will consider sharing your voice!

Rev Kelly

OUR WEBSITE



Have you taken the time to look at the New Maryland United Church website recently?
You will find items of interest in the life and work of the church.

www.newmarylandunited.ca

Note in particular the following:

- The scrolling News Ticker on the 'home' page which will draw your attention to items of current interest.
- The Calendar which has all known events shown for the current month but you can also see previous and future months.
- The current Sunday bulletin - usually available Friday evening. Past bulletins are also there.
- 'The Beacon' newsletters - all are available for 2011, 2012 and 2013.
- Photos of church events - feel free to offer photos you have which you would like to see on our website. Photos are best titled by event without names.

"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass,



it is about learning to dance in the rain."

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT



As long as we live, there is never enough singing. ~Martin Luther

Welcome back after the summer break. Our hope is that you have had a blessed time with family and friends and that your travels were bump free!

Thank you to all those who participated in choir this summer doing solos, duets. Choir practice has resumed at 9:30 Sunday morning and you are welcome to join us. We need low voices, croaky voices, high voices, sleepy morning voices, bold voices, shy voices and voices that are changing. Choir is still looking for a full time pianist/organist but we are presently under the capable direction of Dorothy Webster and supply pianist Vivian Ni. Come and help us make a joyful noise.

MORE VOICES



On Sunday, September 15th the worship service celebrated sacred music from near and far as we welcomed 'More Voices' into our liturgical life. This was a project to celebrate NMUC's 125th Anniversary. We had a tremendous response from the congregation, with 110 copies donated. They were dedicated to God, and in memory of loved ones or simply in celebration of this church and the ministry it has been providing.

'More Voices' is a companion volume to 'Voices United', widening our images and understanding of God as we sing songs of praise, lament, confession and thanksgiving. Many are already known to us, such as Mungu nimwema, Draw the Circle Wide, Ameni, or Spirit Open My Heart. Rather than crowd these new treasures into our pew book racks, we will be handing them out on Sunday mornings, and you can return them to the table at each door as you depart. Happy singing!

CONSIDER THIS?



During the month of September, lists will be compiled for Greeters, Tellers, and Nursery supervisors. If you would like to volunteer in any of these areas, please contact Lorna at 459-3313 or e-mail nmuc@nb.aibn.com.

FROM THE GREEN COMMITTEE



Are you planning to do some painting this fall or have you completed a project during the summer? If you had paint left over, here are some helpful tips on how to store it or what you can do with it.

In partnership with Recycle NB, an organization called Product Care, has established 62 waste paint collection sites in New Brunswick. Keeping paint out of the landfill and out of water ways is very important.

What should I do with left over paint? The most cost effective way is to reuse. Apply an extra coat to high traffic areas, mix small quantities together to make a primer for another project and keep a small amount for touch-ups. If you can't use it, give it to someone who can, a friend, a community centre, church, theatre group, etc.

How can I store paint? Clean the rim of the can. Pour 1/8 inch of solvent on top of oil based paints or 1/8 inch of water on top of latex to seal the surface, then secure the lid. Another option is to stretch plastic wrap over the opening and replace the lid securely. Turn the can upside down to create an air tight seal until you are ready to use it again. Store paint at temperatures of 3 to 35 degrees Celsius, always away from heat.

How can I dispose of paint in a safe manner? Product Care Association has two depots in Fredericton, the Fredericton Regional Solid Waste Commission on Alison Blvd., (call for times open) and on the north side, Topmar Building Supplies, 140 Clark St., hours 8 – 5 Mon. to Fri., 8- 12 Sat. They take many types of paint: latex, acrylic, deck coatings, marine, wood finishing oils, anti-rust, stains and shellacs. Aerosols, automotive, craft and industrial (660 g or 24 oz.), are accepted as well. There is much more information and a complete list of what is and is not accepted on the website www.productcare.org/New-Brunswick.

SALMON SUPPER

at

The New Maryland Centre

Sponsored by

The NMUC Men's Club

Sunday, October 20th

Two Sittings: 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm

Take-Outs Available

Menu: BBQ salmon, baked potato, peas, carrots, rolls, apple crisp, tea/coffee

Tickets: \$12

TICKETS AVAILABLE BY CALLING

459-3313 or 459-8622

The NMUC congregation will be called upon to help with this fund raiser. This is a great time for fellowship! If you are willing to assist in any way, please let Dave Ward or Jim Merrill know how you would like to help out.

INTRODUCING PRESTON and LIB CHARTERS



Elizabeth "Lib" Spencer Fowler was born in Fredericton to parents Henry and Margaret Fowler and lived her childhood years with three siblings on Charlotte Street in a neighbourhood of black, white and Jewish children. Lib comments, "Here we learned the lessons of tolerance which have lasted a lifetime. We played together and squabbled together but our arguments were never about colour or origin." Childhood fun included skipping, games of marbles, Double Scrub, Hoist Your Sails, and even cops and robbers. Lucky was the youngster who could afford a roll of caps for his cap gun! Saturdays would often find her with friends at the Gaiety Theatre costing them a nickle each to see a movie featuring Hopalong Cassidy and the Lone Ranger and Tonto.

Lib enjoyed summertime fun in the Wilmot and O'Dell Parks. She remembers riding on her bike with friends to a near-by farm and having fun jumping in the haymow ... until she learned that mice lived in the hay! In the wintertime she skied with her friends on snowy trails which they carved through the parks and on the city sidewalks. She attended York St. School. When she was in grade six, King George VI and his wife Queen Elizabeth visited Fredericton on their royal tour across Canada. All the school children in the area were seated on bleachers in front of the Legislative Building where they had a perfect view of the royal couple. Unbeknownst to Lib, the students from the rural Nasonworth School were seated nearby, including Preston Charters, her future husband!

Lib and her teen-age friends held parties in their homes where they liked to gather around a piano and sing such popular songs as "The White Cliffs of Dover", "As Time Goes By" or "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition". They danced to the top ten tunes on the radio, the jive being their favourite! Taffy pulls and fudge making were considered great fun. They enjoyed skating to recorded music at the old Arctic Rink at the foot of Carleton Street or they often walked to Queen's Square for outdoor skating fun.

She attended church and Sunday School at St. Paul's United Church. She loved performing in the Sunday School concerts and remembers reciting verses from memory on stage. Later in her young adult years she taught young teens at the local "Y".

Preston Victor Charters, one of eight children in the family, was born in Nasonworth to John and Mabel Charters. Childhood fun in the summertime included tag, ball games and jumping in the haymow. The swimming hole under the covered bridge at the entry of what is now the Covered Bridge Valley subdivision was a perfect spot to cool off on a hot summer's day ... but the fun had to end when it was time to go home and help with the daily farm chores. A favourite winter sport, even during their noon hours at the one-room schoolhouse, was sliding and skiing on the hill behind the Orange Hall near where the Pentecostal Church is now located. There they would go flying through the air from ski jumps that they made on the hill. Preston exclaims, "It's a wonder we didn't break our necks!"

Preston's early church memories take him back to the Nasonworth Baptist Church and occasionally attending the New Maryland United Church. He and his siblings walked to Sunday School classes held in the Orange Hall, while picking wild strawberries on their way.

Lib chose teaching as a career and after attending Teachers College she taught for one year at Ludlow before coming to teach at the one-room school in New Maryland. It was around this time when basket socials were still

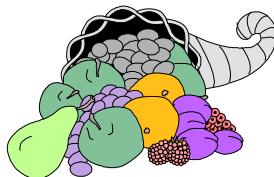
a fund-raising event for church groups and schools. Each lady brought to the social a decorated basket filled with delectable morsels, everything from fried chicken to chocolate cake to apple pie, and the auctioneer would auction off the baskets to the men in attendance. Then the lucky gent would sit with the lady whose basket he had "bought" and they would enjoy the meal together. On a particular 1947 evening in New Maryland a basket social was being held at the Victoria Hall and one of the ladies present was none other than the new school teacher, Lib Fowler. The tasty meal in her basket had been packed by her landlady, Win McKnight. All the young men wondered who would be fortunate enough to "win" Lib's basket and so the bidding began ... and continued as the bids went higher and higher. The lucky young man, the highest bidder who purchased the basket for \$9.00, was Preston Charters. Then he and Lib danced the night away and the rest is history!

Preston left the family farm in 1954 and signed up for the Canadian Army. He was posted to Winnipeg, Manitoba where he served with the artillery. Preston and Lib were married on Christmas Eve in 1951 and lived at Preston's family homestead before moving to their George St. apartment. Preston's next posting was to Westphalia, Germany where he and Lib lived for three years. While there, the highlight of their travels was enjoying the World's Fair in Brussels. By this time, they were the proud parents of three children, Stephen, Sharon and Barbara.

Returning to New Brunswick, they resided at the Oromocto P.M.Q.'s while Preston continued to serve with the artillery and later was employed at various jobs on the Base, retiring in 1978. In 1972 they had built their new house in Nasonworth where through the ensuing years they lived close to their children and grandchildren. Lib taught at the Oromocto schools before retiring in 1985. One of her favourite pastimes was writing and her work with young children was a special joy, providing her with many ready-made stories which she recounts with warmth and humour.

The years have provided Preston and Lib with many life-time experiences, which when putting pen to paper, records an interesting story of their lives from childhood to the present day.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE



The sanctuary will be decorated on October 12 for Thanksgiving Sunday. Any produce or preserves used for decorating will be donated to the Food Bank. Items can be left at the church from October 7th to October 12th.

MEN'S CLUB



All men are welcome to join us at the Men's Club meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.



SUPPORT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

The Central NB Chapter of Muscular Dystrophy is holding a book sale
at Kings Place, Oct. 17 & 18.

The 2013 Christmas ornament is now available - \$12.00 each.
For more info contact Allen or Marilyn Parlee, 459-8007.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Pictured here is Sharon Noël's granddaughter, Paige Parent, who placed first overall in the Entry Division of the Canadian Equine Association sanctioned horse trials held August 24 at the Brae Fearann Stables in Harvey, NB.

FOOD BANK



Non-perishable food items, empty egg cartons and reusable clean plastic bags are always deeply appreciated.
Donation baskets are located at each of our church entrances.

UCW

The UCW started their monthly meetings in September and will continue to meet throughout the year on the second Wednesday of each month. New members would be very welcome. For more info about time and place for each meeting, call Dorothy Webster at 457-9795.



Our major fund raiser of the year, a Bridge Luncheon, will be held at the New Maryland Centre on Thursday, Oct. 24th from 12 to 3 pm. A table of 4 can be booked for \$40 by calling Loraine Ward at 455-8208. Thank you in advance to the many ladies of the congregation who help us with the making of sandwiches and sweets for this special event.

HATS OFF



- ~ to Dave Ward for fixing the kitchen tap !
- ~ to Dave Ward and Paul Lister for their work with the wheelbarrow and shovel !
- ~ to the elves who cleaned the parking lot outside entrance !
- ~ to Doug Watson and Jim Merrill for fixing the lights downstairs !

SUNDAY SCHOOL



All children are welcome to join the Sunday School classes held downstairs following the Children's Story.

AN ARCHIVAL MOMENT



1889

Purchased

$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon oil for oil lamp: \$ 0.15

Chimney top: \$ 3.00

Communion Table: \$ 4.50



Never lose an old friend no matter what the cause;
We wouldn't ever do it if we didn't look for flaws;
The one thing worthwhile having is the friend who stands the test
And who has one friend such as this, knows friendship at its best.

LOOKING AHEAD



Tues., Sept. 24, 7:30 pm - Official Board meets

Thurs., Sept. 26 - Rev. Kelly and Dorothy Webster to Presbytery meeting in Debrec

Sun., Oct. 6, 11:00 am - World Wide Communion Sunday

Sat., Oct. 12 - Decorating the sanctuary for Thanksgiving

Sun., Oct. 13, 11:00 am - Thanksgiving Sunday (guest accompanist Jean-Yves Chevrolat on violin)

Sun., Oct. 20 - Salmon Supper

Thurs., Oct. 24 - Bridge Luncheon

Sun., Oct. 27, 11:00 am - Service with a special emphasis on Outreach

Sun., Nov. 3, 11:00 am - "All Saints" Service

Sun., Nov. 10, 11:00 am - Remembrance Service

Sun., Nov. 24, 11:00 am - 126th Anniversary Service followed by potluck lunch



Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower.

