

Norfolk News

Issue #66 March 2005

Gopher Baroque

A Traditional Contemporary Folk
Group

Featuring Joe Grant, formerly of
Tanglefoot



Dessert and Coffee included

**Saturday, April 9th,
2005
at 7 p.m.**

at Norfolk Street United Church
in the Church School Auditorium

Tickets: \$15/adult; \$10/student;
\$45/family
For tickets & info call Church Office
(822-6165)

Proceeds towards the Youth Mission
Outreach Mexico Trip

TIM'S MESSAGE

Thomas G. Long, in "Whispering the Lyrics" shares a wonderful story: "Clint Tidwell is the minister of a church in a small Southern town, and one of his blessings – and one of his curses - is that the 80-year-old owner and still active editor of the local newspaper is a member of his congregation. The blessing part is that this old journalist believes Tidwell to be one of the finest preachers around, and, wishing the whole town to benefit from this homiletical wisdom, he publishes a summary of Tidwell's Sunday sermon every Monday morning in the paper. The curse part is that this newspaperman, though well meaning, is a bit on the dotty and eccentric side, and Tidwell is often astonished to read the synopses of his sermons. The man owns the newspaper; nobody dares edit his columns, and the difference between what Tidwell thought he said and what the editor actually heard is often a source of profound amazement and embarrassment to Tidwell.

"Tidwell's deepest amazement and embarrassment, however, came not when the newspaper editor misunderstood the Sunday sermon but, to the contrary, when he understood it all too sharply and clearly. It was early on the Monday morning after Easter, and Tidwell, in his bathrobe and slippers, was padding out the carport door to retrieve the Monday newspaper. The paper was lying at the end of the driveway, and, as Tidwell approached, he could see that the morning headline was in 'second coming' sized type. What could it be? he wondered. Had war broken out somewhere? Had the local bank failed over the weekend? Had a cure for cancer been discovered? As he drew close enough to focus on the headline, he was startled to read the words, 'Tidwell Claims Jesus Christ Rose From The Dead.'

"A red flush crept up Tidwell's neck. Yes, of course, he had claimed in yesterday's sermon that Christ rose from the dead, but golly, was that headline news? What would the neighbors think? I mean, you're supposed to say that on Easter, aren't you, that Christ rose from the dead, but that's not like saying that some person who died last week had risen from the grave, is it? Suddenly, as he looked at the screaming headline, what had been a routine Easter sermon had Tidwell feeling rather foolish.

"Indeed, it is foolish - the foolishness of the gospel."

Winston Churchill once said, "History can be a great teacher. Yet, most of the time, we simply get up, brush ourselves off, and learn nothing at all."

Is that the way we have treated Easter? Here is God's great reversal of history, the total dissolution of our march toward death, God's great triumph over sin and death, and what do we do? We get up; we brush ourselves off, and continue our lives as if nothing of any "earth shaking significance" has happened.

This is the sadness of the post-Easter church - our obliviousness to Easter.

In the fifties, in China, there was a devastating earthquake. As a result of the quake, a huge boulder was dislodged from a mountain thus exposing a great cache of wonderful artifacts from a thousand years ago. A new world suddenly became visible.

When the stone was rolled away, and the earth shook, we got our first glimpse of a new world, a world where death doesn't have the last word, a world where injustice is made right, and innocent suffering is vindicated by the intrusion of a powerful God.

Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen indeed!

Happy Easter

Rev. Tim Graham



SEVEC EXCHANGE

(Submitted by Martha Keller)

SEVEC is a chance to experience new cultures. SEVEC Quebec Exchange is for people who speak English to practice their French and for people who speak French to practice their English. The Quebec program is two weeks in Ontario and two weeks in Quebec. The SEVEC program is where a person from Quebec stays in your house for two weeks. Next the people from Ontario will go back to Quebec and stay with their "twin's" family for two weeks.

When I first heard about the SEVEC exchange I was nervous about trying to get into it. I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to understand and speak French while I was in Quebec. I decided to try it last summer after Grade 8 because I had learned a lot about how to speak French. This was a perfect chance to really test my French and meet people.

My teacher handed out information for the SEVEC and explained the program. I filled out the form and followed the instructions. I then had an interview with a supervisor. After the interview it was determined that I would be participating in the Quebec Exchange.

When I found out that I was accepted, I was very excited. I knew I would be paired up with someone from Quebec. I didn't know who it would be or if we would get along. In my house we all had French-English dictionaries so we could communicate. My twin was Sandra, and she had a pocket-sized electronic dictionary that could translate to many different languages. Often the word we were searching for wasn't found so we pointed and tried to explain in other ways.

On the exchange I did many interesting things that I would not normally have done. For example in Ontario I went to Niagara Falls and went on the Maid-of-the-Mist, to Toronto and got tours of the Sky Dome and Air Canada Centre and went on a boat around Toronto's harbour. In Quebec I had a tour of Chateau Frontenac (there are English and French tours), went to a water park, and my favourite, climbing through the trees on a canopy walk. Even though I am terrified of heights I tried this activity and enjoyed it the most when both my feet were flat on the ground again. On the last day in Quebec, we toured a fort.

In Quebec I learned so much about French. People in Quebec speak French a little differently than how my teacher spoke in class. I am so fortunate that I tried and was able to have this experience. Thanks to Norfolk Street United Church for making this happen.

Milestones

On Feb 28 our web site received it's 10,000th visitor since 2001. This breaks down to 5,892 from Canada, 2,524 from the United States, 84 from Britain, 29 from Australia, and 20 from each of South Africa and Nigeria plus too many others to list here.

Dessert Card Party
Sponsored by Norfolk St.
United Church
Friendship Guild



Wednesday, May 4,
2005
at 1:30 p.m.

at Norfolk Street United
Church
Corner of Cork & Norfolk
Streets, Guelph
Cork Street Entrance

Admission: \$6/person
For tickets call Kay @ 822-
1012, Dorothy Small @ 823-
2888 or the Church Office @
822-6165

Proceeds towards Church Projects.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Alta Greenway)

Spring is Coming! The days are growing longer and the warmth from the sun will be awakening the first growth of spring. It is a time of joy and new beginnings.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ushers and counters for January, Allan and Nancy Knapp and Vern and Joan Hamilton and for February, Lois and Chuck Henderson and Shirley and John Burrows. The ushers for March will be Bob and Pam Bothwell, and Ian and Sylvia Mollison, for April, Doug and Marlene Neal and Pat & Doug Gillan.

Thank you to all who give their time and talents to Norfolk Street United Church.

On Feb. 6th we welcomed into our congregation Kathryn Sheryl Ince, Kimberley Croteau, Greg Cawsey, Carrie Buchan and Shelley Sager by profession of faith.

We welcome Mary Watson, Robert & Sandra Walters by transfer of membership.

Nicole Kathryn Ince and Shayna Menard were baptized on Feb. 6th.

On February 27th, Theodore Wayne Malone and Benjamin William Reece Malone, sons of William & Patricia Keefe were baptized.

Our warmest wishes to all and welcome to our "family".

Please take note of the following special upcoming services at Norfolk St. United Church:

March 20th - **PALM SUNDAY** - Rejoice with us as we commemorate the triumphant ride into Jerusalem. 10:30 A.M.

March 25th - **GOOD FRIDAY** - Joint Service with Paisley Memorial & Chalmers United Churches 11:00 A.M.

March 27th - **EASTER SUNDAY - HE IS RISEN ! HE IS RISEN INDEED !!!**

This year we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ at two services.

We especially invite you to join with us for a time of music and worship!

8:00 A.M. "Son"rise Service

10:30 A.M. Easter Service - Hymnspiration

April 3rd - **COMMUNION SERVICE** - 10:30 A.M.

May 8th - **CHRISTIAN FAMILY DAY** - Mother's Day 10:30 A.M.

June 5th - **RIVERSIDE PARK** - Communion Service 10:30 A.M.

HAVE A JOYFUL, BLESSED EASTER



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

(Submitted by Sylvia Grant)

Sunday School got off to a good start in 2005. Despite colds and flu viruses this winter, we have had a good representation of students each Sunday.



On Friday, February 18th Wesley Peluch, Andrea & Katie Parsons & Sylvia Grant attended a lunchtime meeting of the Rotary Club of Guelph. On behalf of the Sunday

School, Katie Parsons presented a donation of \$2,000 to go towards the Rotary Club's Tanzania Project. This money will be taken to Tanzania in the fall of 2005 and used to buy books for the Douglas Bennett Memorial Library. The donation was greatly appreciated.

On Sunday, March 6, we had a local artist, Sandra Phillips visit us. Under her direction, we made shadow puppets for the story of Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem. On Palm Sunday we plan to present the story using the shadow puppets in the Christian Education Auditorium following the Church Service. We had an excellent turnout on March 6th and we look forward to the presentation on Palm Sunday.

Tim Graham and Ivor Wright have joined us with their guitars once in January and once in February. Each time they have taught us a song and we have had a great time singing with them. We look forward to more visits and more singing.

On February 13 Helen McCrossan donated a Valentine's Day craft to each of the Sunday School students. Everyone was delighted. Thank you Helen!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Hermina Wright, Co-Chairperson)

Church Council got off to a good start and a new year in February and the Christian Education Committee was delighted to welcome Tim Crouch to the committee. Tim has been teaching our Senior Class in Church School over the past few years. As well he is a student at University and works many hours at Chapters Book Store. He is currently preparing to continue studies in Theology, which will take him either to Queens in Kingston or Toronto, as he begins his journey into the Ministry of the Church. We wish him well. Welcome aboard Tim.

As you read this, our Mexican Outreach trip is underway. Brendan Zamojc, Martha Keller and Tim Crouch left very early in the morning on March 10th. We look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return.

In regard to having sent these people on this journey, we have one more fundraiser coming up on April 9th. If you remember Tanglefoot, you will enjoy this concert. Joe Grant, who was with Tanglefoot for many years, has joined another group called Gopher Baroque. I am sure we are in for a good evening. However, tickets are limited so get yours now.

Coming up in April, five members involved in Christian Education will be attending an all-day workshop at Melville United in Fergus called "The Good Samaritan and the Power of the Worm". These are workshops on a Rotational Model. This is a practical hands-on training event, and we will bring back many exciting and new ideas to work with in our own Church School.

Finally, last fall, Christian Education purchased books for the library and one of these books caught Ivor Wright's attention and he has submitted an overview of this book, which he highly recommends for reading. Look for his report on "Dying for Change" by Leith Anderson.

BOOK REVIEW by Ivor Wright

"Dying for Change" by Leith Anderson

Change an unavoidable, inevitable part of life
Change is not the choice; how we handle it is.
"I believe God works in and through change to accomplish His purposes."

WORLD CHANGES:

- Globalization
- Mobility
- Diversification
- Demographics – increasing elderly, decreasing youth
- Women – greater role in society
- Pluralism – multiple choices
- Short Term Commitments
- Decline in Work Ethic
- Cocooning – return to the home as the center of life’s activities and relationships

The Church is Not an island – as the culture changes, the Church changes.

RANGE OF RESPONSES TO CHANGE

- Resistant Church – keeping things the way they were (i.e. Old Amish, Mennonite)
- Yesterday’s Church – keeps hoping that tomorrow will be 1954, nostalgic about the past.
- Try Harder Church – keeps doing the same things but trying harder to do them better.
- Surrender Church – it concludes it cannot change.
- Entrepreneurial Church – i.e. TV ministries, special interest groups, etc.
- Renewing Church – renewal is an ongoing process.

When churches or organizations begin confronting change and they become part of the process of change and they must begin with self-diagnosis (i.e. Asking important diagnostic questions.)

DIAGNOSTIC QUESTIONS?

- Why does our church exist?
- What do you think our purpose is?
- What do you think our purpose should be?
- Who’s in charge?
- Who knows what’s going on? Knowledge is power.
- Who is looked to Spiritually?
- How are newcomers brought into the Church?
- Which way do we look? Inwardly – self-serving, survival mode or Outwardly – outreach
- How has change been handled in the past? Successfully or unsuccessfully?

I would recommend this book as it is in our church library.

.....
DANCE ... Might as Well Dance

This was written by an 83 year old – the last line says it all.

I’m reading more and dusting less. I’m sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden. I’m spending more time with my family and friends and less time working. Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure. I’m trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them. I’m not “saving” anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom.

I wear my good blazer to the market. My theory is if I look prosperous, I can shell out \$28.49 for one small bag of groceries. I’m not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank.

“Someday” and “one of these days” are losing their grip on my vocabulary; if it’s worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now. I’m not sure what others would’ve done had they known they wouldn’t be here for the tomorrow that we all take for granted. I think they would have called family members and a few close friends. They might have called a few former friends to apologize and mend fences for past squabbles. I like to think they would have gone out for a Chinese dinner or for whatever their favorite food was. I’m guessing, I’ll never know. It’s those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn’t written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn’t tell my husband and parents often enough how much I truly love them. I’m trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

And every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special. Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God.

CHATTY CRAFTERS

(Submitted by Eleanor James)

The Chatty Crafters have been kept busy crafting many items. Some have been put away for our Christmasfest 2005 table later this year.

The ladies have painted snowmen, gingerbread men, needlepoint napkin rings, frig magnets and Valentine favours.

We replaced the chair pad on the dining room chair

outside the upstairs kitchen.

Anyone interested in crafts is welcome to join us Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Christian Education Auditorium for tea and fellowship.

Please use the Church lane door.



A TRUE FRIEND...

(Taken from The Sentinel January 2005)

- Accepts you as you are
- Believes in "you"
- Calls you just to say "Hi"
- Doesn't give up on you
- Envisions the whole of you
- Forgives your mistakes
- Gives unconditionally
- Helps you
- Invites you over
- Just "be" with you
- Keeps you close at heart
- Loves you for who you are
- Makes a difference in your life
- Never judges
- Offers support
- Picks you up
- Quiets your fears
- Raises your spirits
- Says nice things about you
- Tells the truth when you need to hear it
- Understands you
- Values you
- Walks beside you
- X-plains things you don't understand
- Yells when you won't listen and
- Zaps you back to reality

FRIENDSHIP GUILD

(Submitted by Lynn Hunter)

For our March meeting, Wilma Rose spoke to us about "The Feeling Better Program" and demonstrated the exercises she uses in this program.

Our thanks to the Badminton Club for their donation to enable us to buy new lamps for the Parlour.

Don't forget to save your Zehr's tapes; we are processing them now. The funds raised through this program are used to purchase items for the church and for church improvements.

The Sunday School Beginners Room will be painted shortly.

Our Dessert Card Party will take place on Wednesday, May 4th at 1:30 p.m. Admission is \$6/person. We would appreciate donations of desserts from the church ladies. For tickets call Kay Scott at 822-1012, Dorothy Small at 823-2888 or the Church Office at 822-6165.

For information on our monthly meetings held the first Thursday of the month from September to June at 1:30 p.m., please call Lynn Hunter at 821-1305.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Wynne Wright)

Finances are a long term concern here at Norfolk, and for more details you should get a copy of the annual report. Various circumstances combined in 2004 produced a sizeable operating deficit. Fortunately, we have reserves that we can draw upon to keep the bills paid. However, as someone said at the annual meeting, "it's hard to pay 2004 expenses using 1990 income". We are asking our members to look closely at their annual givings, and satisfy themselves that they are at a 2005 level. The annual report gives some examples of day-to-day spending and asks that each member compare that cost to their givings. For example, if you buy the combo special at your favourite fast food restaurant once per week for a year, the cost would be approximately \$413 or if you played golf once per week for the season, it would cost approximately \$1,800. How does that compare to your annual givings?Just food for thought.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

(Submitted by Ken Russell)

The Change Now food program continues like a well oiled machine and the teams from other churches have created their own routines and all enjoy the two hours of excellent community service. We are always looking for new volunteers from Norfolk and have made available a training night if you, and your family, would like to join us and see how the program works. Every 25th of the month is Training Night from 5pm to 7pm. Contact Ken Russell at 823-0228 to participate. Cooks and non-Cooks are welcome!

It's now a new church year and your Outreach Committee is planning to create some new projects or community/world issues that need addressing, ... and we need your input. If you have an idea for a project or event, please let us know.

"Determine never to be idle. No person will have occasion to complain of the want of time who never loses any. It is wonderful how much can be done if we are always doing."

- Thomas Jefferson advising his daughter Martha, 1787.

Web site

In an effort to continue to update our web site an archive is now available for downloading this newsletter and other important church documents to your your computer at home. Point your web browser to www.norfolkchurch.on.ca

Theatre Outings

The Thesbian group organizers are soliticing for ideas for shows or events for us to enjoy this spring and summer. Suggestions include a matinee at Stratford, dinner theatre at Theatre in the Trees at the Arboretum, and Guelph Little Theatre Drayton and St. Jacobs performances.

Archives

(Submitted by Ken Russell)

Rev. H. Garfield Rees - Norfolk minister from 1956 to 1964

Guelph Mercury, May 23, 1964



Rev. Rees was ordained at Moose Jaw in Zion United Church in 1936. He served at Delisle, Saskatchewan, for a short time, then received a call from North Hill United Church at Calgary, Alberta. From Calgary he was called to the First United Church at Brandon, Manitoba where he served for eight and a half years. On January 1, 1956, he was invited to become pastor of Norfolk Street United Church.

During Mr. Rees' pastorate in Norfolk Street United Church, the congregation has accomplished many changes. The church has been completely redecorated and renovated, a new heating plant installed and a new Casavant organ purchased, ladies' parlour refurnished and wash rooms built under the narthex; Christian Education Hall decorated with a memorial worship centre dedicated, also gymnasium completely redecorated. The manse also has been redecorated and partially refurnished and the heating plant changed.

Two memorable occasions were recalled in 1961.

One was the 125th. anniversary of Norfolk Street United Church; the other was the 25th. anniversary of Garfield's ordination. Both events were recorded in the church magazine, the United Church Observer, and Mr. Rees dug up some figures at that time to embellish the facts. In his 25 years of ministry, he had married 730 couples, had baptised 1,110 babies, had officiated at 551 funerals, and had received 2,532 members into his churches.

BEEF CONNECTIONS

"Natural Beef ~ Naturally Raised"

This Organization is a joint effort by the Bruce Presbytery of the United Church of Canada and the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Watch the bulletin for details on how to participate in our next Beef Connections order which will be delivered Wednesday, May 4th.

Chili Dinner

Saturday, February 19

A great evening for all!



Men's Breakfast

Saturday, April 2nd, 2005 @ 9 a.m.
At Angel's Diner
23 Wellington St. East

Come out, bring your son, grandson, father, grandfather or neighbour and have breakfast with the boys!

LADIES' DINNER OUT...

at Latinos
10 Paisley Rd.
(in the Royal Plaza)

TUESDAY, APRIL 5th
at 6 p.m.

R.S.V.P to Office
(822-6165)
by noon
April 4th

Come and enjoy
an evening out with
fellow members of Norfolk.



Norfolk Street United Church **Contact Information**

Phone 822-6165 Fax 822-1003

Website
www.norfolkchurch.on.ca

⇒Rev. Tim Graham
minister@norfolkchurch.on.ca
⇒Rev. Mary Savage
marysavage@norfolkchurch.on.ca
⇒Church Office
info@norfolkchurch.on.ca

The Church Office is open weekday mornings
between 9 a.m. and noon.

Access to the church during office hours is through
the Cork Street entrance.

***“People Serving God
Through Serving People”***

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Calendar of Events

March 20 Palm Sunday
March 25 Good Friday Service
March 27 Sunrise Service, Hymnspiration,
Easter Sunday Service
April 2 Men's Breakfast
April 3 Communion Service
April 5 Women's Dinner
April 7 Friendship Guild meetings
April 9 “Gopher Baroque” Concert
April 14 Church Council Meeting
April 24 Hymnspiration
May 4 Dessert Card Party
May 5 Friendship Guild Meeting
May 8 Newsletter Deadline
May 12 Church Council Meetings
May 29 Hymnspiration
June 4 Good, Bad & Ugly
Antique Appraisal Day
June 5 Outdoor Service at Riverside Park
Communion Service
June 12 Promotion Sunday

*Please be sure to submit your upcoming events in writing if
you wish to have it included in the Calendar of Events.
Thank you...*