

NOVEMBER  
2011

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**WANT TO SEE  
CONNECTIONS IN  
FULL COLOUR?  
CHECK OUT ST.  
PAUL'S WEBSITE!**



In the 2011 September issue of Connections, I wrote about stories and how they impact and play an important part of my life. There are many stories to tell during the month of November.

God constantly calls us to recall the events of history, through the Passover, the Last Supper, the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. In remembering, in silence and prayer, we are able acknowledge the grace and love of God in all time and places.

All Saints Sunday is commemorative time in the life of the church when we remember all the saints who have gone before us, and also a time to remember that we all are saints in the body of Christ. Here, at St. Paul's we especially remember the stories of the Saints who have died since last year at this time. Names will be offered in prayer and we will light a candle in remembrance of the faithful who rest peacefully in the company of Jesus for all eternity. In our hearts and mind we remember friends and loved ones who have died. Their death's may have taken place many years ago but for some it may seem like "not that long ago." Time appears to take on new meaning when we are faced with life and death occasions.

On this All Saints Sunday, we will also take time to remember those who have sacrificed their lives for others, as we prepare ourselves for Remembrance Day on November 11. On that day, many will gather at cenotaphs around the world, watch the Service on television, gather in assemblies in schools, or take time in the work place for silence and prayer.

I read a story, author unknown, concerning Remembrance Day, that is worth sharing.

The battle had raged for over two hours, with neither side gaining any advantage. Wave after wave of soldiers had been dispatched from the muddy trenches and sent over the top. So many had died already that day that he decided he could not afford to lose any more men before reinforcements arrived. Perhaps they'd give the remnants a few more days of life. There came a slight lull in the battle due to the sheer exhaustion of the men on both sides. During this interval, a young soldier came up to him requesting that he be allowed to go over the top. He looked at the boy who couldn't have been more than nineteen. Was this extreme bravery in the face of the enemy or was the soldier so scared he just needed to get it over with? "Why would you want to throw your life away soldier? It's almost certain death to go out there." "My best friend went out over an hour ago, captain, and he hasn't come back. I know my friend must be hurt and calling for me. I must go to him, sir, I must." There were tears in the boy's eyes. It was as if this were the most important thing in the world to him." "Soldier, I'm sorry, but your friend is probably dead. What purpose would it serve to let you sacrifice your life too?" "At least I'd know I'd tried, sir, he'd do the same thing in my shoes. I know he would." He was about to order the boy back to the ranks, but the impact of his words softened his heart. He remembered the awful pain he'd felt himself when his brother had died. He'd never had the chance to say goodbye. "All right soldier, you can go." Despite the horror all around them, he saw a radiant smile on the boy's face, as if a great weight had been lifted from his shoulders. "God bless you, sir," said the soldier. It was a long time before the guns fell silent for the last time and each side was allowed to gather their dead and wounded. The captain remembered the young soldier. He looked through the many piles of bodies. Young men. So many as to give an unreal quality to the scene before him. When he came to the makeshift hospital, he looked carefully through the casualties. He soon found himself before the prone body of the soldier, alive, but severely wounded. He knelt down beside the young man and gently laid a hand on his shoulder. "I'm so sorry, son. I knew I was wrong to let you go." "Oh no, sir. I'm glad you did and I'm glad you're here now so I can thank you. You see sir, I found my friend. He was badly wounded, but I was able to comfort him at the end. As I held him dying in my arms, he looked me in the eyes and said: "I knew you'd come." The young soldier faded between consciousness and oblivion for some time before he finally slipped away. The captain stayed by his side until the end, tears streaming quietly down his cheeks. Only in war could the happy endings be so terribly sad. As the bugle sounded "Taps", the old captain envisioned once again the young soldier's face. Looking up, he could almost hear the stone monument calling out to him: "I knew you'd come."

On All Saints Sunday and on Remembrance Day, where ever you are, remember those who fought on behalf of our country for freedom.

Finally, on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, we will gather in worship, around a different type of wreath, in preparation for Advent. We will light a candle each Sunday to recall the wonders of God's love and presence in our world. We will remember through the word, prayer, and music the story of "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus." Through worship we will remember, that God's Son comes into our world and into our lives. Now that is worth remembering.

May God truly bless you and your family as we take time to give thanks and remember our stories and God's story.

Your friend and pastor. Jeff

**Treasurer's Report by Sandra  
as at September 30, 2011**

Offerings.....	\$114,270.90
Other Income .....	\$2,251.60
Transfer from Investment Portfolio .....	\$13,500.00
Total Income.....	\$130,022.50
Total Expenses.....	\$140,363.10
Surplus/(Deficit) .....	(\$10,340.60)



**Please consider  
adding  
a little extra to  
your  
regular offerings!**



**Congregational Budget Meeting  
Sunday, November 6  
Following the Worship Service  
Bring sandwiches/desserts to share**



**For a  
Chuckle**

Dining out one evening, I noticed six teenagers boisterously celebrating some event at a nearby table. Toward their end of their meal, one of them got up and produced a camera.

"Hey, wait a minute," one of her companions said. "You have to be in the picture too."

When I approached and asked if I could help, the girl who owned the camera was delighted. I snapped a picture of the group and then, being unfamiliar with the camera, I asked her, "Do you want me to take another in case that one doesn't come out?"

"Oh, no, that's okay," she chirped innocently. "I always get double prints."

Submitted by Marisela



Greetings and Peace be to all.

October 2011

The Congregational Council of the last couple years made some major changes to the overall organization of the congregational committee structure. Part of this structural change was driven by the fact that Council spent a large amount of its time on items related to day to day running of the congregation, and making decisions in areas where council members had limited expertise. Council is still involved with some of these items but more and more of the issues and decisions are being made at the committee level and, where necessary, are taken to Council for final approval.

The failure of our heating unit is a good example of how an effective committee structure can work. The furnace failed testing during routine maintenance and had to be shut down. The Property and Building committee notified the Chairperson of the situation and a plan and procedure was arranged. The Committee is made of hard-working and dedicated individuals including **Earl, Muriel, Joan, Chris, Ted, Geoff and Don**. Their invaluable and thorough knowledge of all aspects of the building allowed them to very quickly assess options and to then make a recommendation for action. They had even, in the past, explored alternative energy sources and were able to arrive at a well informed decision very quickly. The Finance committee (**Mark, Paul, Kathy, David, Andrew, Linda, and Sandra**), who are very knowledgeable and are intimately familiar with financial matters were asked to provide their opinion and expertise in arranging for payment and financing of the options put forward by the Property and

Building committee. Their combined recommendations could then be very quickly and appropriately assessed and action taken. The replacement of the heating unit and controls will cost us around \$40,000 and more information will be forthcoming on how this will be completely funded. The Capital Repair Fund has about \$23,000, and the forethought and planning of previous Councils in ensuring regular additions to this fund has gone a long way in helping us cover this amount. You will remember that a large sum of money was spent recently in roof repairs and in replacing the external doors to the church. Come to the Congregational meeting to discuss the 2012 budget on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> for more information. Both the Property and Building, and Finance committees are open to any active member of the congregation and anyone is welcome to contact the chairpersons of each committee (Muriel and Mark, respectively) for meeting times.

Another committee that is using their dedication and expertise is the Mutual Ministry Committee. Members of this committee are **Muriel, Paul, Marilyn, Doug, Katarina, and Richard**. This committee has a general function of keeping the pastor and staff advised about the conditions within the congregation, and to interpret to the congregation the ministry of the professional leaders. They are essentially a go-between between the Pastor and Staff, and the congregation. This is the first full year of operation for this committee and they have been busy assessing contracts between the congregation and the Pastor and Staff. Their

hard work in starting this procedure will no doubt payoff for subsequent committees and the congregation as a whole should be better off as a result. Each should be applauded for their time, dedication and expertise in this function.

The Council receives reports from groups and committees within the congregation at each meeting. This is one of the duties of Council as written in the Constitution. Council is therefore able to be knowledgeable about these various groups in our congregation and to provide assistance as necessary. The system is now in place to monitor and ensure there is regular reporting and also to identify trends in Congregational activities so that adjustments can be made early and before crises occur. One of the reports of particular interest this month was the Treasurer's report and the deficit of \$9,667.73 at the end of the summer. All members of the St Paul's Congregation family should assess their free will offerings to date and assist us in making our budget.

Payment for the new heating unit is partially dependent on this.

The Congregational Council is concerned, as are many of the congregation, about the quorum required for Congregational meetings. Our current quorum is 40 active members and we have only just made this number for the last several meetings. Council discussed reducing the quorum to 30 but decided to actively promote attendance at the meetings and to provide many reminders well in advance. Considering we have a membership of over 200 individuals, achieving 40 should not be so difficult! Please put November 6th on your calendar, if you have not already done so. The meetings of the past have only been about one hour and they follow a pot luck lunch. When you come, you will be amongst friends.

Finally, the approved Minutes of every Congregational Council meeting and the reports of the various committees are available on the notice board in the narthex. You are welcome to view them there.

Yours in Christ  
Rob

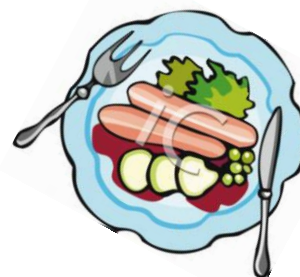


## Saturday Night Supper

*Thank you to everyone who has helped out with Saturday Night Supper in 2011, whether you volunteered your time, prepared food, and/or made a cash donation. All help is extremely appreciated.*

*Stay tuned to a future issue of Connections, and announcements during Sunday Services, for Saturday Night Supper **2012** dates.*

*Robin*



## Christmas Bags

Please help your community during this holiday season...



Once again this year Chalmers Community Services Centre is asking your help to fill a Christmas Bag for the less fortunate.

Their records show that 60% of the bags go to men and 40% to women. This year there is a new list – please read it carefully and only put into the bag what is requested. Please fill a cloth bag with the items on the list below and bring it to church before December 4<sup>th</sup>. Your bags will be delivered to Chalmers at that time. If you miss the deadline, you can take the bag in yourself, but please let Robin know, as we track the numbers sent each year. It would be VERY helpful if you could clearly label the bag so we know if it is for a male or female.

**Please fill your cloth bag with:**

- |                                     |                                      |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| † One pair gloves                   | † Tooth brush                        | † Antiperspirant or deodorant                           |
| † One pair socks                    | † Bar of soap                        | † Bag of disposable razors                              |
| † Hand towel                        | † Powder or talc for men             | † Candy treat                                           |
| † Face cloth                        | † Personal hygiene product for women | † Chocolate                                             |
| † Regular size shampoo              | † Shower gel or body wash            | † Small jar of instant coffee / teabags / hot chocolate |
| † Comb or brush                     |                                      |                                                         |
| † Tooth paste and / or dental floss |                                      |                                                         |

**For most, this is the only holiday gift they will receive this Christmas. Thank you for your continued support!**

**Robin, Box 7**



## **The Twenty and the One**



Submitted by Klaus

A well-worn one-dollar bill and a similarly distressed twenty-dollar bill arrived at a Federal Reserve Bank to be retired. As they moved along the conveyor belt to be burned, they struck up a conversation. The twenty-dollar bill reminisced about its travels all over the country.

"I've had a pretty good life," the twenty proclaimed. "Why I've been to Las Vegas and Atlantic City, the finest restaurants in New York, performances on Broadway, and even a cruise to the Caribbean"

"Wow!" said the one-dollar bill. "You've really had an exciting life!"

"So tell me," says the twenty, "where have you been throughout your lifetime?"

The one dollar bill replies, "Oh, I've been to the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, the Lutheran Church."

The twenty-dollar bill interrupts, "What's a church?"

**Please note:**

**The next Connections will be a combined December / January edition.**

**The next Connection deadline to submit your articles is November 20<sup>th</sup>.**



St. Paul's has three televisions (two large, one small) that we would like to give to anyone who is interested. Also, there is a DVD player and a VCR player. The Church no longer needs them. If interested, contact Muriel, Box 111.



The 50+ Club purchased a new Transport Chair (wheelchair) for the Church. The wheelchair we have now frequently requires the tires to be inflated; so therefore the need for a new chair. The new chair does not have this problem. If interested, please contact Muriel, Box 111.



## **Sunday Church School News**

Regular classes scheduled for Nov 6, 13 and 20th.  
November 27th we start rehearsal for our annual play.



Confirmation Sunday celebrated on October 16th.

**Watch for us greeting on November 6th...**

Shown above with Pastor Jeff and Geoff are Confirmands:  
Marisa, Liam, Madison, Shayne,  
Hannah, Logan and Peter



# **Christmas Carols by Candlelight**



Featuring:

**The Centre Wellington Singers  
& University of Guelph Choir**

**Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 - 7:00pm**

St. George's Anglican Church  
99 Woolwich Street, Guelph



**Presenting Sponsor:**

**Caressant Care Nursing  
& Retirement Homes**

## **Tickets**

**Available at the Door or by**

**Phone: 519-836-7672**

**E-mail: [office@alzheimer.guelph.org](mailto:office@alzheimer.guelph.org)**

Adults \$15.00 - Seniors/Students \$10.00 - Children (12 and under) \$5.00



## **Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lutheridge** **1991-2011**

### ***Our Story***

Although the official opening of Lutheridge was October 20<sup>th</sup> 1991, five families (including myself) moved into the yet unfinished Lutheridge on June 28<sup>th</sup> 1991. Thanks to the dedication and perseverance of the building committee, under the guidance of chairman Rod, the dream of the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church was nearing completion.

When the first families moved into their new home, there were no locks on the outside doors and no carpeting in the halls. The refrigerators and stoves were being moved in as were we. There was lots of activity. I'm sure many of us silently wondered "what were we getting into"? Personally I felt at home and safe from day one as I'm sure many others did. Three of those five original families are still living here: Harold, Theresa, and myself Joan. Others started arriving in July as the units became available but there were still electricians, carpenters, painters, etc. continuing to work throughout the building.

An executive committee had to be formed from volunteers who had chosen Lutheridge as their new home. The 1<sup>st</sup> committee included: Joan (chair), Theresa (secretary), Carolyn, Mary, Joan, and Art. Although no one had any formal training for the tasks they were about to undertake, everyone assumed this responsibility enthusiastically and performed their jobs conscientiously and to the best of their abilities.

Gwen and Ernie, also residents of Lutheridge, became our first Mercury paper carriers by assuming the task of delivering the papers to each door and generously donating the monies they received for this service to the resident's fund. This continued until they were no longer able to do so.

Coffee hours were started on Thursday mornings and 25 cents was charged for coffee and cookies. At this time due to lack of furnishings in the common room we borrowed card tables and chairs from St. Paul's. We still pay the same for coffee but have our own furnishings now! This continues to be both an economical and fun social event for any residents who care to attend.

In July 1992, a New Horizon grant was applied for and Lutheridge received \$6000.00 to furnish the common room. As time went on, a shuffle board table was purchased for the enjoyment of the residents. Some years later it was replaced with a treadmill to better suit the needs of the residents.

Social activities including card playing, movie nights, and craft nights started. It was decided to have a bazaar with the intent of selling all of those crafts and generating money for Lutheridge at the same time. We knitted, sewed, made Santa dolls, jewellery, and baked lots of goodies. Margaret Weiss crocheted a

beautiful tablecloth for our first place draws. This went so well we did it again the next year. Lots of work but the laughter, idea sharing, and working together brought us together in deep friendship. With donations and the money generated from the bazaars we then furnished the guest suite.

The social committee continues to have pot luck dinners, stew nights, Oktoberfest dinners, corn roasts, and ice cream socials on a regular basis. The first Sunday of the month we have a birthday party to celebrate all of the birthdays for that month. Residents are encouraged to provide input into what activities they would like.

We have had a lot of changes over the past 20 years. Many of our friends have died and others have gone on to retirement or nursing homes. We remember them fondly and are better for knowing them.

We welcome new members to our Lutheridge family, and hope they will be as happy as we are.

Our executive committees have, and are continuing to keep the building in good repair, and to promote a family atmosphere that makes Lutheridge a great place to live.

We are grateful to have the continued support of St. Paul's who allow us to use Rose Hall for various functions including our Anniversary dinner. Thank you.

Submitted by Joan

## NOVEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 -50+ Club 12 noon, Parish Hall -Ladies' Fellowship 6 pm, Parish Hall -TOPS 6-8 pm, Choir Room	2 -Book Study 7:15-8:30 pm, The Parlour	3 -Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm, Sanctuary -Al-Anon 7:30-8:30 pm, Parish Hall	4	5
6 <u>All Saints Sunday</u> Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:00 am  Bible Study 8:45-9:45 am, Parish Hall  Congregational Budget Meeting, After Worship, Parish Hall	7 -AA 6:00-8:00 pm Parish Hall	8 -TOPS 6-8 pm, Choir Room	9	10 -Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm, Sanctuary -Al-Anon 7:30-8:30 pm, Parish Hall	11 <b>REMEMBRANCE DAY</b>	12
13 <u>22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:00 am  Confirmation Class, 11:30 am, Parish Hall	14 -AA 6:00-8:00 pm Parish Hall	15 -50+ Club 12 noon, Parish Hall -Men's Fellowship 6 pm, Parish Hall -TOPS 6-8 pm, Choir Room	16 -Women of St. Paul's (ELW) 12:00 noon, The Parlour	17 -Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm, Sanctuary -Al-Anon 7:30-8:30 pm, Parish Hall	18	19 - Church Council Retreat, 9:00 am, Parish Hall
20 <u>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:00 am  Bible Study 8:45-9:45 am, Parish Hall  Confirmation Class, 11:30 am, Parish Hall  Deadline for December & January Connections	21 -AA 6:00-8:00 pm Parish Hall	22 -TOPS 6-8 pm, Choir Room	23	24 -Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm, Sanctuary -Al-Anon 7:30-8:30 pm, Parish Hall	25	26
27 <u>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</u> Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:00 am  Chili Lunch, After Worship, Parish Hall	28 -AA 6:00-8:00 pm Parish Hall	29 -50+ Club 12 noon, Parish Hall -TOPS 6-8 pm, Choir Room	30			