

Our History

In 1867, the Presbytery of Perth of the Church of Scotland organized the congregation of Lombardy and Oliver's Ferry.

On January 27 1868, William Miller was inducted as the first minister.

In 1870, a log church – St Mary's - was constructed on a plot of land purchased from William Richard McLean for \$5.00.

Received, on the Day of the Date of the within Indenture, the sum of

Five Dollars

of lawful Money of Canada, being the full consideration therein mentioned.

In the presence of

W R McLean
Eben Bell

Record of Deed William Richard McLean
for sale of land for church \$ 5⁰⁰
Aug 12, 1870

In 1886, Rev. Neil Campbell was inducted as the first resident minister. A manse was built next to the church on property purchased from Mr. McCue for \$30. He served St. Mary's and St. Andrew's from 1886 – 1894.



Jan, 9 1887 – The elders at Bethel were William John Mclean, John McKay and Peter Coutts

This Indenture,

made the *Twentieth* day of *June* one thousand eight hundred and eighty-*eight* years

In Pursuance of the Act respecting Short Forms of Conveyances;

Between

William M^c Cue

of the First Part

*Henry Houze, James King
George Cherry and James Morrison*

of the Congregation of *Oliver's Ferry* TRUSTEES
of the Second Part; and

E. Elizabeth M^c Cue

Wife of the said *William M^c Cue* party of the First Part, of the Third Part

Whereas, the Congregation of *Oliver's Ferry & Port Elmsley* is a Congregation of the religious body known as the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA, and whereas the said Congregation desires to take a conveyance of the lands hereinafter mentioned, under the provisions of the Act respecting the property of Religious Institutions in the Province of Ontario, and subject to the provisions of the Act passed in the thirty-eighth year of Her Majesty's Reign, intituled "An Act respecting the Union of certain Presbyterian Churches therein named; and whereas the said Congregation have appointed

*Henry Houze, James King -
George Cherry & James Morrison*

Trustees, to whom and their successors, to be appointed in the manner hereinafter specified, the said lands may be conveyed, and who may take, hold and possess the same by the said name of *Elmsley*

under the provisions of the said Act.

Now this Indenture Witnesseth that in consideration of *Thirty Dollars (\$30⁰⁰)*

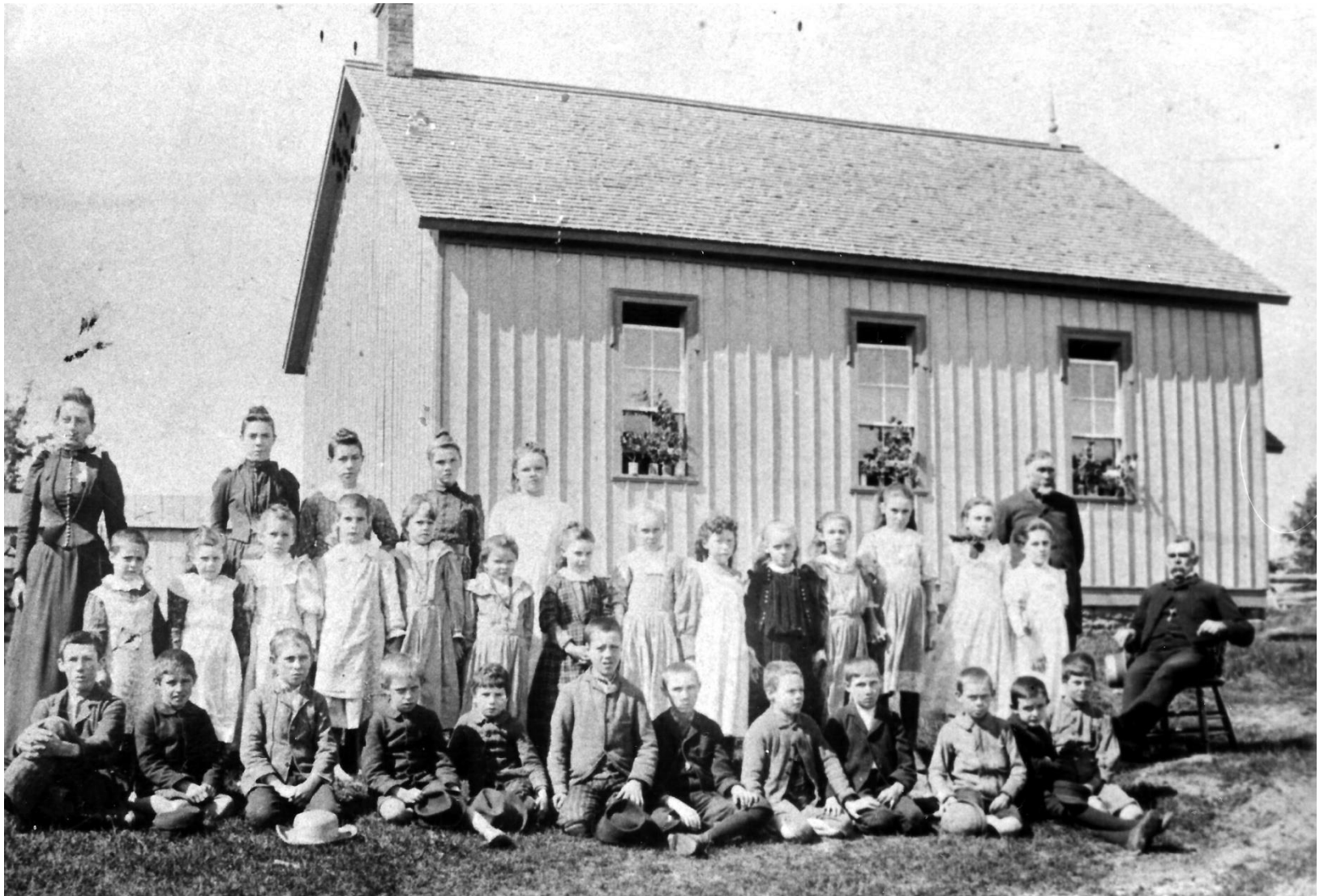


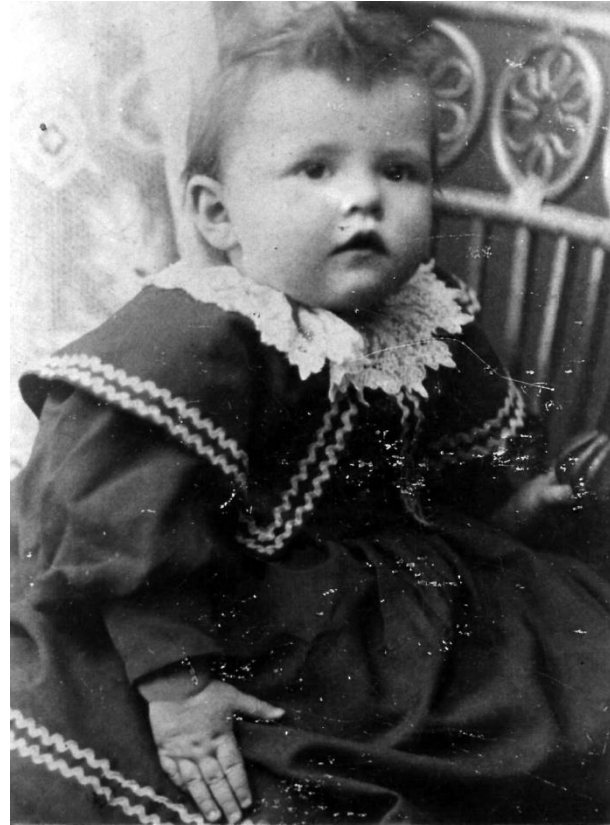
Photo of the school where services took place before St. Mary's church was built located on Rideau Ferry road south of Ian McLean's mailbox. The school was torn down after North Elmsley Public School opened in 1965.

1892 – The first organist, Miss Maggie Muncie - later Mrs. William King, received a monetary gift which she returned to the building fund for the new church.



1895 – additional land was purchased from William Richard McLean and on July 21 1895 a new church was opened and the name was changed from St. Mary's to Bethel Presbyterian Church.

The first baby baptised in the new church was Beatrice Campbell

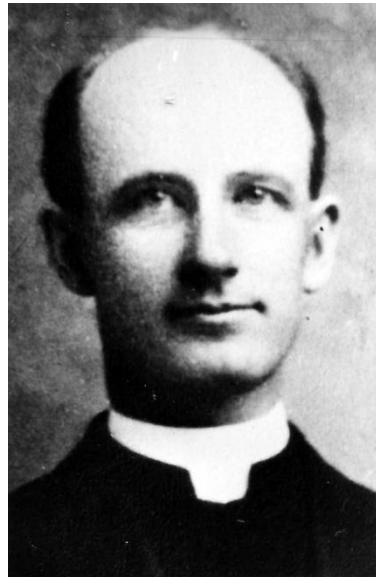


Rev.. R. C. H. Sinclair served the new church from 1894 to 1899.



Mrs. Crombie organized a Women's Association to look after the needs of the church and the manse.

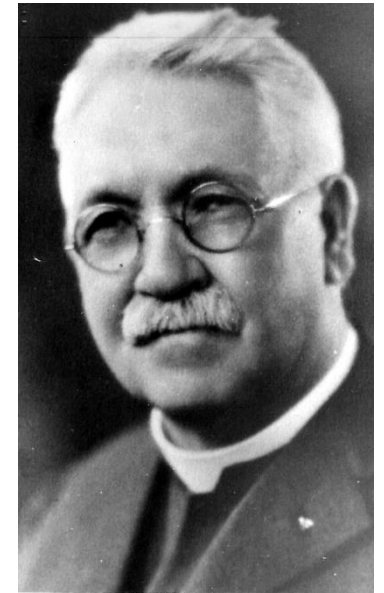
Rev. W. T. B. Crombie
1899 - 1909



Rev. Alex Rintoul
1910 - 1918



Rev. Harold Lloyd
1926



Rev. D. J. Scott
1922 - 1926

BABY'S BIRTHDAY



Eliza Irene McLean

A LITTLE face to look at,
A little face to kiss,
Is there anything, I wonder,
That's half so sweet as this?

A little cheek to dimple
When smiles begin to grow
A little mouth betraying
Which way the kisses go.

A little hand so fragile,
All through the night to hold,
Two little feet so tender,
To tuck in from the cold.

Two eyes that watch the sunbeam,
That with the shadows play.

A darling little baby
To kiss and love always.

member of the

Bethel S. S. Cradle Roll

After baptism children were listed in the Cradle Roll.

Nov. 17 1914 this was sent by A. Rintoul, Superintendent,
to Eliza Irene McLean

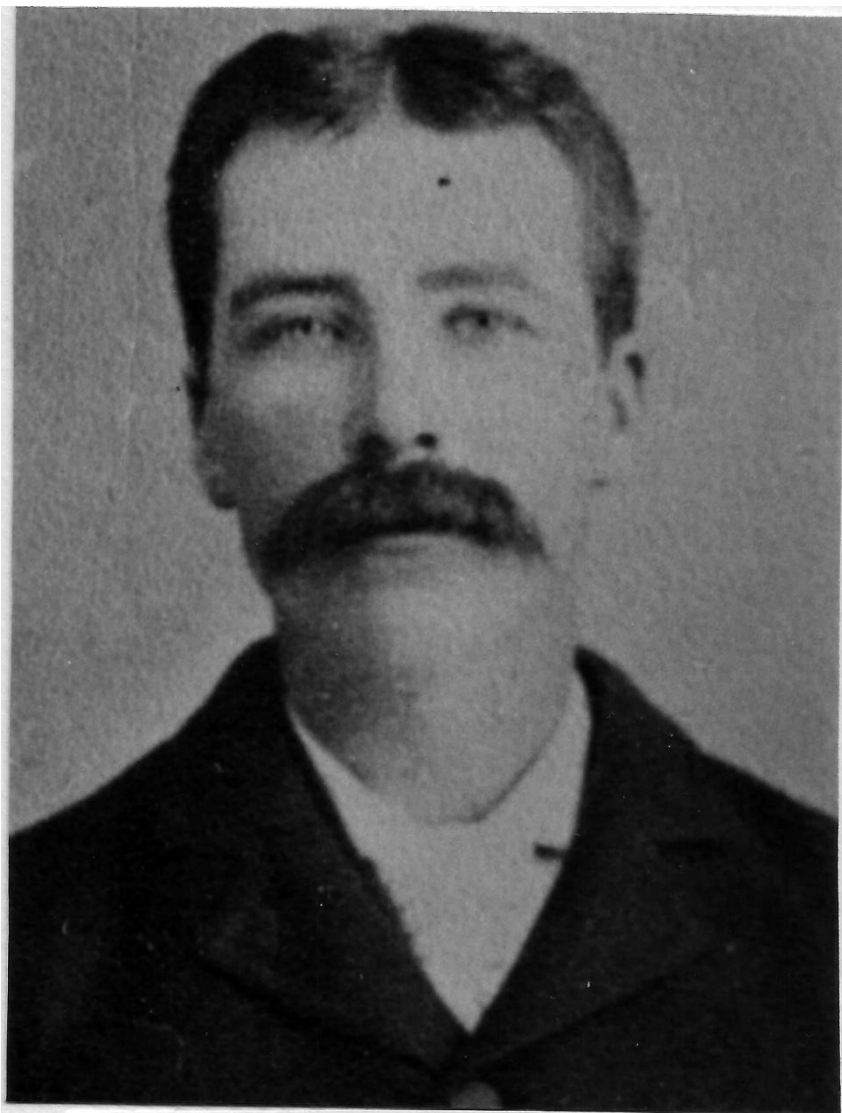
*A little face to look at, a little face to kiss.
Is there anything, I wonder, that's half so sweet as this.*

*A little cheek to dimple when smiles begin to grow.
A little mouth betraying which way the kisses go.*

*A little hand so fragile all through the night to hold.
Two little feet so tender to tuck in from the cold.*

*Two eyes that watch the sunbeams that with the
shadows play.*

A darling little baby to kiss and love always.



ARCHIE COUTTS
Forty-One Years as Elder
1914 - 1955

The United Church of Canada is an amalgamation of the Union of Methodists, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches.

When the three denominations were in agreement about uniting, the church leaders approached the government of Canada to pass legislation concerning transfer of property rights. The legislation passed, June 27, 1924 and was effective June 10, 1925.

The United Church of Canada was inaugurated at a large worship service at Toronto's Mutual Street Arena on June 10, 1925. Participants were handed 38-page order of service containing the full text of the liturgy, prayers, hymns, and music. Hymns from all three churches were sung:

All people that on earth do dwell from the Scottish

Presbyterian psalm tradition;

the Methodist favourite *O for a thousand tongues to sing* by

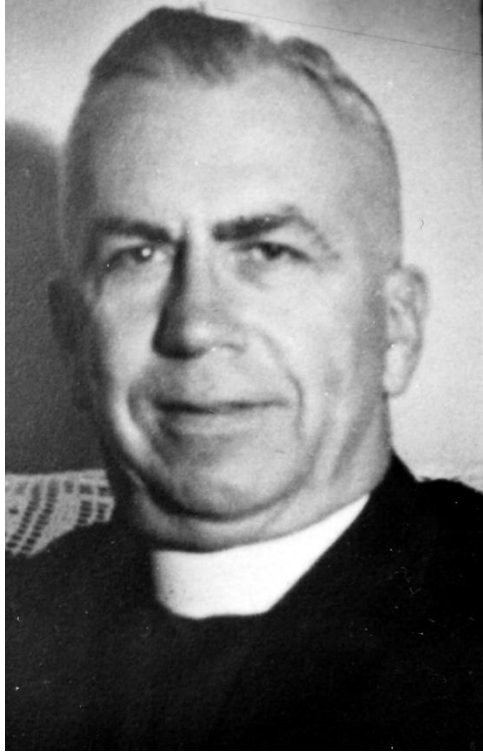
Charles Wesley;

the Congregationalist *O God of Bethel*;

and *When I survey the wondrous cross* by the British

Nonconformist, Isaac Watts.

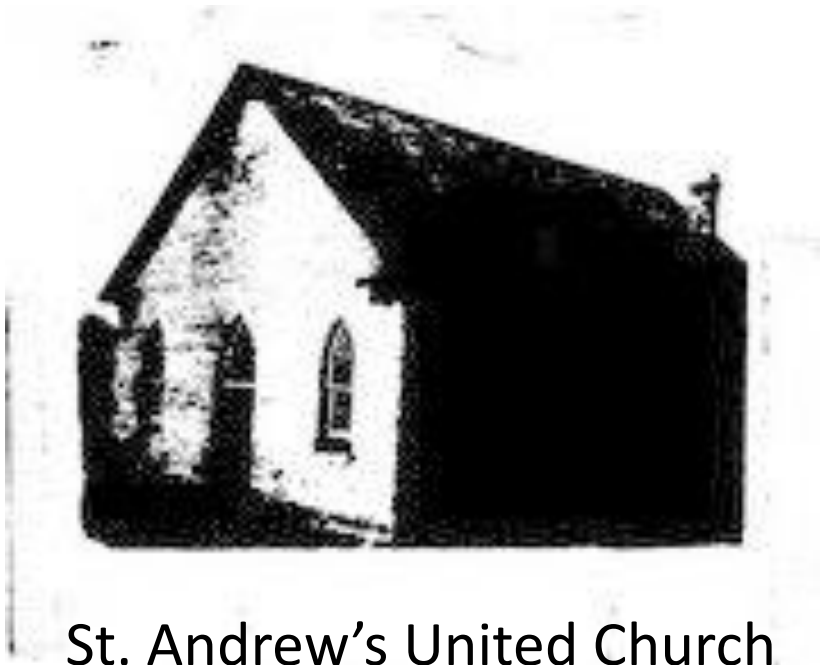
In 1927, Bethel Presbyterian, Elm Grove Methodist, Lombardy Methodist, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian (Port Elmsley) were united as the Elmsley Lombardy Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada. The first minister was Rev. R.H. Wylie - 1927 - 1932





Mrs. R.H. Wylie and son Robert
(circa 1928)

This was the last baby born while
parents inhabited the manse until
Joel and Janet den Haan lived there
1991-1993



St. Andrew's United Church
Station Road, Port Elmsley
1888 - 2005



Bethel United Church
Rideau Ferry Road
1895

LADIES' AID
1935





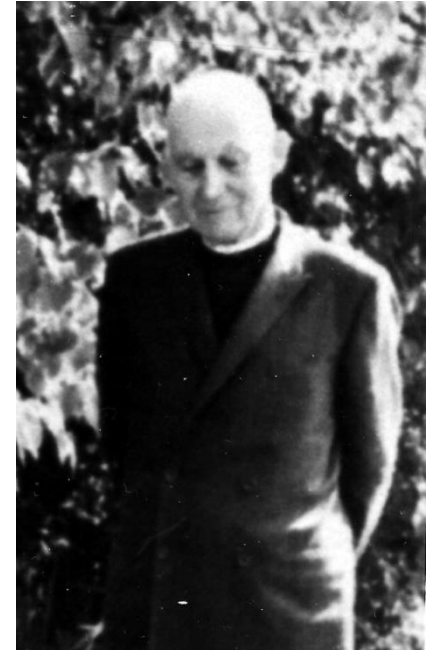
Rev. T. N. Wesley
1932 - 1933



Rev. R. B. Harrison
1934 - 1937



Rev. R. M. McMullen
1941 - 1947



Rev. P. F. Gardiner
1937 - 1940

From 1948 – 1973, students from Queen's Theological college served the pastoral charge.



Mr. W. L. Morden
1947-1948



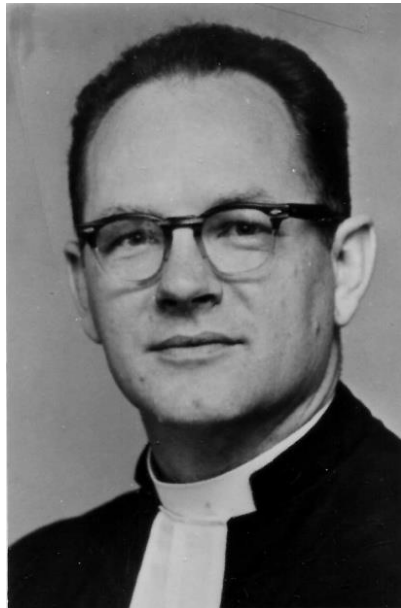
Mr. J. H. McAvany
1948



Mr. R. K. Shorten
1949



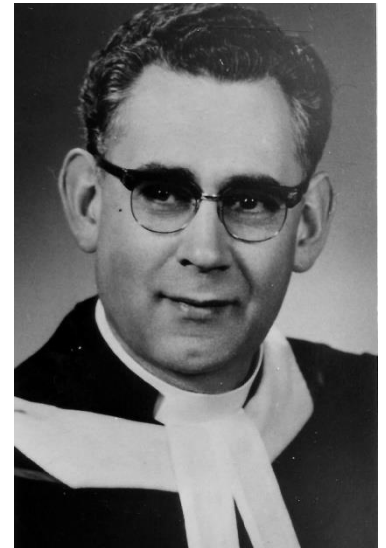
Mr. T. R. Norman
1949 - 1951



Mr. A. A. Calder
1952



Mr. H. P. Barnes
1956 - 1958



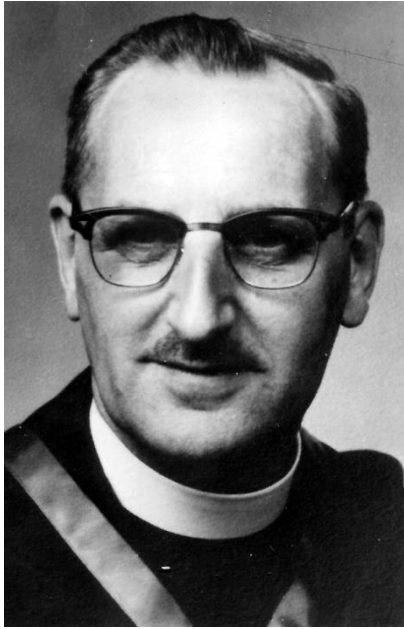
Mr. J. E. Clarke
1954 - 1956



Ladies' Aid Picnic - 1957



In 1958, the front steps were constructed by Max and Bev Hall with stone donated by Harry Hughes.



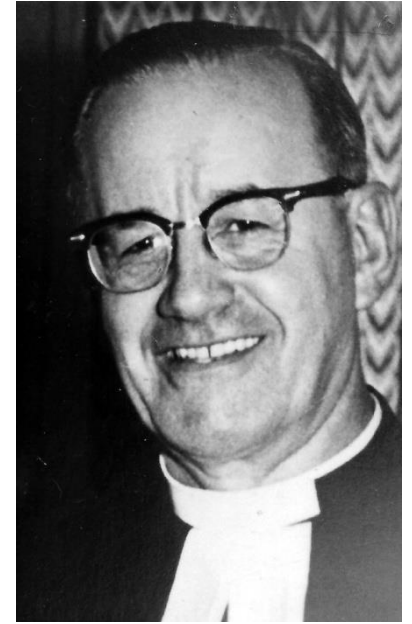
Mr. Grassie
1958 - 1960



Mr. Wilmer Graham
1960 - 1966



Mr. Arthur Lentz
1968 - 1971



Mr. Arthur Bacon
1966 - 1968

1955 Communion Table in memory of the late Mrs. Mary McLean Jewett was presented to the church

In 1962, the first Sunday School hall was added on the rear of Bethel church. The kitchen was in the corner near the choir storage room.

Electric heaters were installed in the church and the hall replacing wood burning stoves.

The
Women's Missionary Society
of the
UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Certifies that

Mrs. A. W. Ineson

is a

Life Member

in accordance with the terms of its Constitution

Mrs. James E. Carrolls.

Lillian M. McKillop.

President

December 27 1957

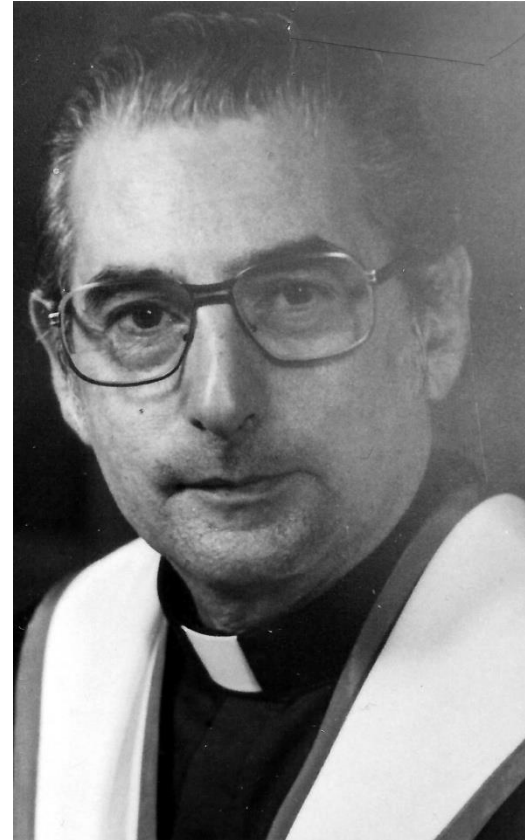
Bonne J. Ward

Secretary

*Women's Missionary Society became
United Church Women in 1962.*



Mr. Edwin Cook
1971 - 1973



Rev. Arthur Mittler
1973 – 1981
Rev. Mittler was ordained in
1976

Organists serving Bethel during these years

Mrs. Wm King (Maggie Munsie) 18?? - 1915

Mrs. George McVeety 1915 - 1924

Mrs. Mabel Joynt 1925 - 1962

Mrs. Bessie Coutts 1962 - 1964





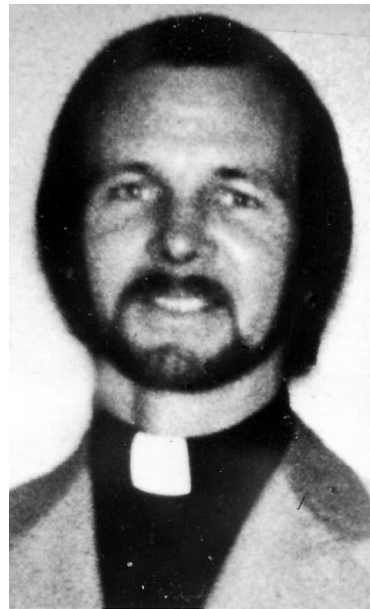
Mrs. Evelyn Stewart
1964 - 1991



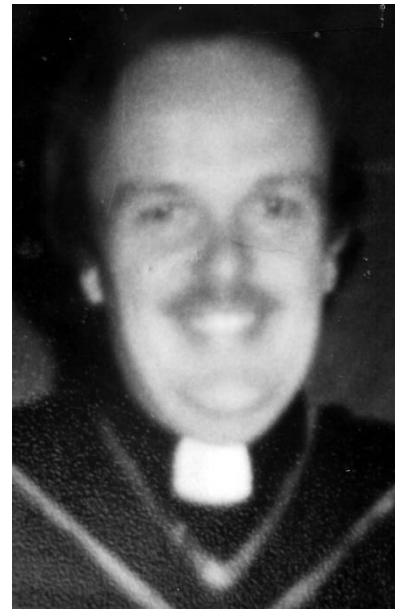
Mrs. Ruby Imeson
1964 - 1991



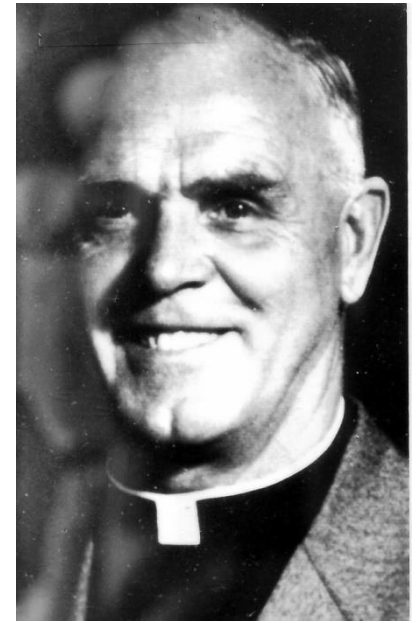
Dr. D. L. Joyce
1980 - 1981



Rev. David Joycey
1981 - 1983



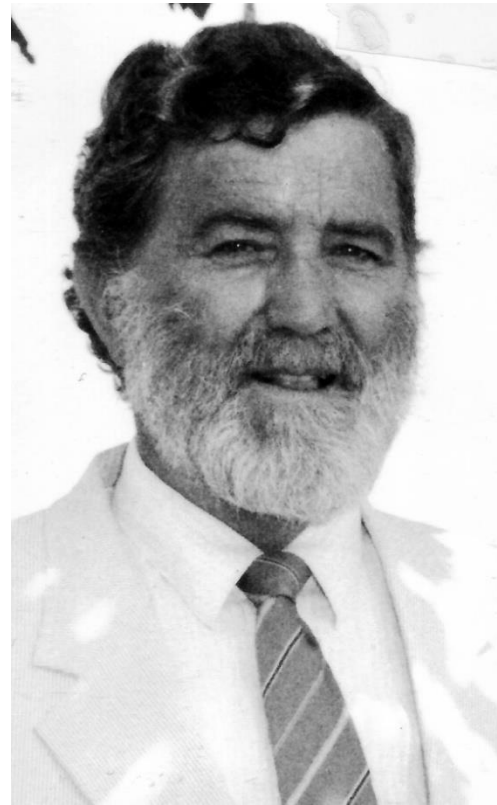
Rev. Rick Magee
1984 - 1985



Rev. William Kennedy
1983 - 1984



Rev. Johanne Hills
1986 - 1989



Rev. Ralph Hill was an interim minister while Rev. Johanne Hills was on maternity leave.



Rev. Johanne Hills with confirmation class – Cathy Baker, Kim Baker, Julie Churchill, Jennifer Herrington, Shari Leigh Duncan, Dene Johnson



Cora Wellman, Ina Moore and Mary Armstrong at St. Andrew's 100th Anniversary, September 1988



Rev. John Bushby
1989 - 1991



Rev. Joel den Haan
1991 - 1993

The new kitchen and washroom were added in 1991.







United Church Women - 1992

Christmas Fun



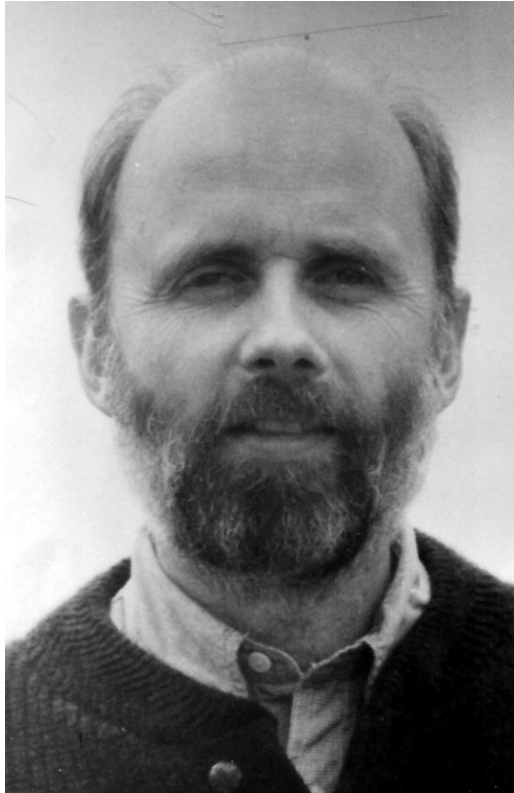
Evelyn MacFarlane and
Agnes Fleming – White
Gift Skit



Christina Davis – Student
Minister 2000



Catherine



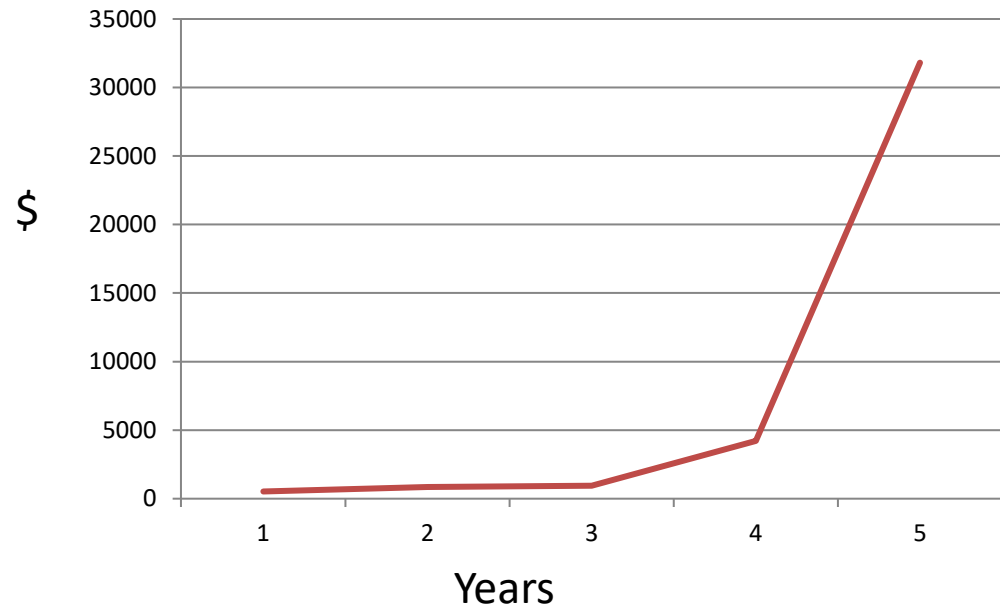
Bob Deveny - student
1993 - 1994

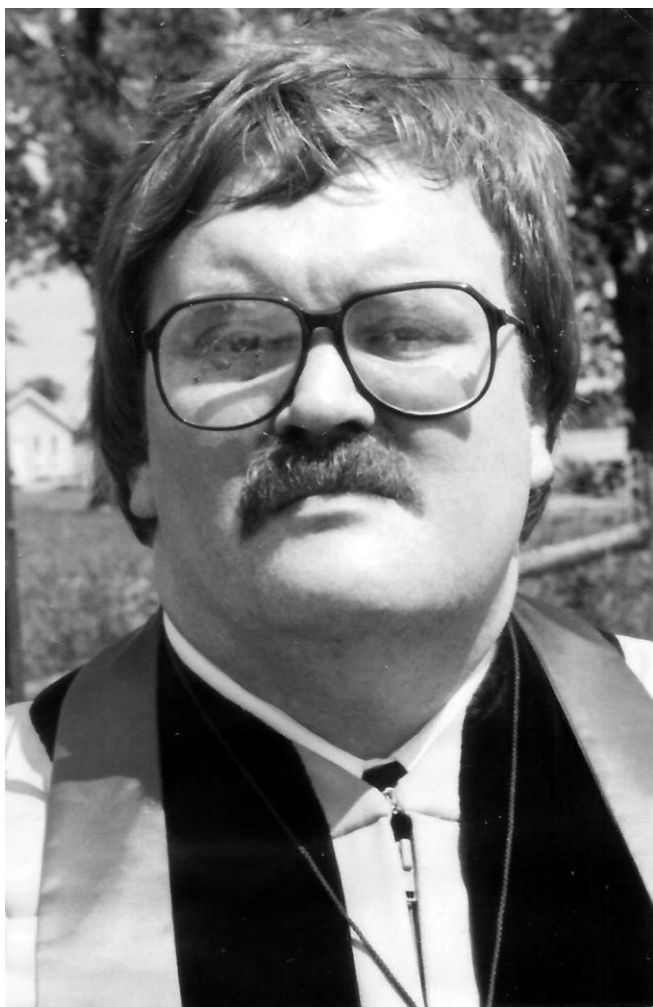
June 26 1994 in front of St. Andrew's,
Station Road, Port Elmsley



A look at expenditures through the years

1908	\$519.28
1920	\$853.45
1945	\$942.42
1970	\$4219.54
1994	\$31815.18





Rev. James Haupt
1994 - 2000



Karen Towle – organist

July 23 1995 – Special 100th Anniversary Service



Bethel Choir – soloist Connie Ayers



September 24 1995 – Anniversary Service with Rev. Dr. Alan Churchill



September 24 1995 – Anniversary Lunch



September 24 1995 – in the kitchen



September 24 1995 – 100th Anniversary Garden



Spaghetti Supper 2001

A fundraiser to purchase
Voices United Hymn Books





Rev. Elizabeth Tucker
2001 - present



Carol Husband



Ruth Anne Johnson

Picnic on the lawn of St. Andrew's June 2002



In 2005, St.
Andrew's
United Church
on Station Road
in Port Elmsley
closed.



Guess Who?



Guess Who?



Guess Who?



Guess Who?



Guess Who?



Guess Who?

