



Water Marks: Water as Chaos, Water as Life

by Pastor Nancy

Lent is a time to recommit to Bible study, prayer, reflection and repentance. This year Lent begins quietly on February 22 when we will be marked with ashes and acknowledge our mortality. Our Ash Wednesday services will be at 1:00 and 7:00 PM. Before the 1 pm service, come enjoy a bowl of soup in the Parish Hall at noon.

I invite you to join me during Lent in spending a time of daily reflection on God's grace – a gift God gives us freely and generously so we can share it freely with others. The book we'll read is *Water Marks* by Diane Jacobson. "Water marks our natural lives from our mother's wombs to daily bathing to the quenching of our thirst. And water marks our lives when we die and rise with Christ in baptism. From the first chapter of the Bible to the last, God's Word is water marked."

Water Marks is a 40-day guide to help us navigate through the Bible's balance of water as chaos and water as life. Here's the simple daily plan for us to follow alone, with a friend or in small groups.

- Brief Bible passage
- Meditation on the passage
- Inspiration from another place in the Bible, a quote or related hymn verse
- Silence
- Verse from a Psalm
- Questions to ponder
- Closing Prayer

The cost of the book is \$9.00, and it will be available Transfiguration Sunday, February 19 at the Pancake Breakfast. Copies will also be available to borrow.

Daily Discipleship

- 9:30 AM Bible Study on Monday mornings in the Church Parlour
- Come enjoy a lively discussion on the Gospel for the following Sunday. During Lent, we'll be reading *Water Marks* alongside our usual materials.
- Materials available online if you can't join us Monday mornings. www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Discipleship/Christian-Education/Daily-Discipleship.aspx

For Those Considering Baptism and Membership

- Saturday Mornings in Lent beginning Feb. 25
- The Way Home: Remembering Every Road God Has Led You On
- 10:00 AM – 11:30 am in the Parlour

If you want to know more, e-mail me at pastor_nancy@on.aibn.com

Sunday Mornings

Plan to worship every Sunday during Lent. Come ponder the theme of water, when there's enough, when there's too much, baptism, cleansing, renewal, thirst and related themes. Make Adult Ed part of your Sunday morning routine, too. Our Adult Ed Lenten schedule is in the article on page 8.

Let's join together this Lent--all ages--in remembering our baptismal promise to place in each other's hands the Holy Scriptures. We who are baptized bear the sign! We await the joy of joining together with you if you are praying about being baptized or affirming your baptism and becoming a member of St. Mark's!



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email: office@stmarkskw.org
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Pastor: **Rev. Nancy Kelly**
 Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Vernon Cronmiller
 Part-Time Visitation Pastor: Rev. Scott Schellenberger
 Community Ministry Coordinator: Rev. Marilyn Shaw

Congregational Co-Chairs: Brian Reiner, Jim Oakley
 Music Director: Lilla Hall
 Parish Secretary: Nancy MacLean

Our church on the corner of Green and King

Life at St. Mark's

Skating Party!

Sunday, February 12th, 2 - 3 pm



Confirmation of Julia, Ben, and Claire



Time once again to sharpen your skates for the third annual Three Churches Skating Party!

St. Mark's, St. Matt's and St. Pete's are all invited to take part.

Skating 2-3 p.m.
Dom Cardillo Arena
(The Aud) in Kitchener

Refreshments & goodies to follow
in the Subscribers' Lounge

COST:

Free! (goodwill offering)

A great event for all ages,
please join us for
some fun on the rink!



Christmas at St. Mark's



KCI Goats come to visit the Creche. The black goat is Marigold and the brown one is Belle.



Sunday School Christmas Pageant and practice

COUNTDOWN TO 100: UPDATE

by the 100th Anniversary Committee

Over the past year, the 100 Anniversary Committee met six times to discuss and develop St. Mark's 100th Anniversary celebrations.

We are committed (and aware) of the responsibility to plan in a manner that will allow every member from our youngest to our oldest; from our newest to our most sustaining to participate in every way possible all year long! The diversity of events we are developing and have planned we hope will inspire members so no one will miss a moment of St. Mark's once-in-a-lifetime anniversary!

We encourage anyone to share their comments, ideas and questions with any committee member.

14-MONTH COLOUR CALENDAR: Calendars were created for the 85th and 90th Anniversaries and were very popular. Once again for 2013, each month will have a different theme and creative look with familiar Christian symbols including many adorning our banners, sanctuary, stained glass windows etc. Please consider sponsoring a month of your choice for \$100 to honour a family member or anniversary/birthday or in memoriam. June 2013 and January, February, 2014 are available. Your month's calendar page will recognize your sponsorship details. A deposit of \$20 will confirm your sponsorship (and month) with the balance of payment due in 2013. The deadline to sponsor a month is no later than Sunday, February 27, 2012. With the help of 14 members, our 100th Anniversary calendars can be sold for \$5.00 each! Please contact Shirley Oakley to reserve your month or for more details.

COUNTDOWN TO 100 FUND: As of January 16, our total = \$6,406! We are so close to the goal of \$7,000!! This amount is our budget amount to cover most celebration costs allowing our celebration to be affordable for every member especially our Congregational Luncheon on Sunday, November 10th at St George Banquet Hall. This FUND ends Saturday, February 2, 2013 (the eve of 100th Anniversary Sunday). A special thank you to everyone who has contributed to honour the memory of a loved one and/or as a gift for a special personal or family celebration.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be another congregational meeting, in the Parish Hall, on Sunday, February 26, 2012, after the 10:15 a.m. service.

This meeting will involve discussion on committee reports and the election of council for 2012.

Narthex Windows

These windows will be a permanent remembrance of our 100th anniversary celebration. Consider dedicating a window in memoriam by purchasing the window individually, with your family, with other families. These are renderings of the proposed windows.



New Covenant Window and Mural*

\$2,075 each or \$4,150 for both

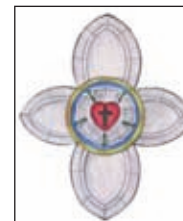
** This window has been approved and will be part of the 100th Anniversary celebration.*



Celebrating Music



In the Beginning was the Word



Luther Rose Window \$1,730

Liturgical Windows \$2,300 each

Please contact Diane Bonfonte at 519-578-1369 for more information or to find out about contributing to a window!

Editing ReMarks

A Note from the Editors



Thank you to the Members of St. Mark's who so willingly share items for ReMarks. As we endeavour to provide valuable, useful information to our readers, we wrestle with ongoing issues:

- Environmental issues in which we try to control the amount of paper used in printing
- Financial issues in which we try to control our costs in printing and in distribution
- Balance issues in which we try to balance our information to be shared with your time to read it
- Time issues in which we try to optimize the time required for production and distribution

Articles submitted are edited with these issues as a guide, always focusing on the information being presented. Pictures and graphics are used where possible to replace a myriad of words. The ReMarks Committee suggests 800 words as a maximum for submissions.

We encourage members to receive their copy of ReMarks electronically via e-mail.

You can request this service at stmarksluth@on.aibn.com. An added benefit of receiving your newsletter via e-mail is that it is in full colour!

2012 Newsletter Schedule

<i>Deadline Date</i>	<i>Covers Period</i>	<i>Published Date</i>
January 9th	February, March	Feb 1st
March 5th	April, May	April 1st
May 7th	June, July, August	May 27th
August 7th	Sept., Oct.	August 26th
October 8th	Nov., Dec., Jan.	October 28th

We ask for God's comfort and peace for the family and friends of beloved members of the congregation:

Joe Mieh	Oct 30, 2011
Cora Reist	Dec 25, 2011
Alice Gartung	Dec 29, 2011
Peter Kleinschmidt	Jan 27, 2012



Caregiver Support Group

St. Mark's will be offering another Caregiver Support Group for people providing care to someone with an illness beginning the last week of February. This 8 person group will meet for 1 ½ hours each week for 10 weeks. The specific day & time will be determined based on group member needs. There is no fee for this group. Contact the church office at 519-743-6309 for more information and to register.



St. Mark's Holy Week Schedule

April 1 – Passion Sunday

8:30 AM and 10:15 AM

Procession with Palms, Holy Communion

April 5 – Maundy Thursday

12 Noon Friendship Circle Lunch,
1:00 and 7:00 PM

Hand Washing and Holy Communion

April 6 – Good Friday Service

10:15 AM

April 7 – Easter Vigil

7:00 PM Baptism and Affirmation of Baptism

April 8 – Easter

7:00 AM Sunrise Service, Holy Communion

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Breakfast

10:15 AM Festival Holy Communion



Watch for more information!

THREE CHURCHES – Shared Ministry Strategy Advisory (SMSC)

by Stu Schellenberger



ST. MARK'S

Alan Gingrich
Laurie Kitchen
Stu Schellenberger
Pastor Nancy Kelly



ST. MATTHEW'S

Matt Brubacher
Tim Schaner
Mary-Ellen Winkler
Pastor Katherine Altenburg
Pastor David Malina



ST. PETER'S

David Gellner
Doug McGee
Gary Schlueter
Pastor Mark Ehlebracht
Pastor Wendell Grahlman

This committee meets at least once every two months to discuss ideas for shared ministry between St. Mark's, St. Matthew's and St. Peter's Lutheran churches. The purpose of this group is to help build greater community between the three churches and to ensure efficient use of our resources with the overall goal being to ensure a vibrant long-term Lutheran presence in the K-W core.

This committee has no direct decision-making authority, but rather it can make recommendations to the three Church Councils for their consideration. If you have any questions, feel free to ask one of our St. Mark's representatives.

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF EL SALVADOR:



On Monday morning, I started a new online course through Toronto School of Theology, U of Toronto, another element in my DMin program. Proper technology and adequate Internet speed, bandwidth, etc., were crucial. Also, it was important that there be no interruptions throughout the morning. Professor, course and classmate introductions were critical. Well, blocked sound, frozen images, crashed Internet connections, long delays and cut connections when phoning my local ISP, etc., etc., were the order of the morning. And that was just the technological side. One house guest was leaving, and a family of long-time friends, including their 7- and 3-year old children, showed up needing comfort just as the class was starting, as yet another younger brother had been shot and killed over the weekend. Such is life and ministry amidst the ongoing chaos that is El Salvador.

An update on Quetzalcoat Foundation and our prison ministry is long overdue.

Let me begin by celebrating our prison program The celebrations include 6 closing ceremonies in 4 prisons in mid-December, following very affirming written evaluations by dozens of inmate participants in early December.

A great irony for me in El Salvador--perhaps anywhere--is that it is most often the youth, the prison inmates and those challenged by HIV who are the ones stigmatized, marginalized and excluded, whereas in my 2+ decades of experience here, it is these who most often inspire me, while the no-longer-youth, the non-inmates, and the "healthy" are the more frequent sources of disillusionment

AEIPES, the Association of Ex-Prison Inmates of El Salvador, launched over 10 years ago by several inmates with whom I had worked in Mariona prison--in the late 1990's.

Our small team has been warmly welcomed by the Lutheran Church in El Salvador, where we have led three seminars on restorative justice with a couple dozen pastors, as well as with a parish youth group. We have been asked to continue in 2012.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada continues to support and contribute by paying my salary, which gets stretched in several urgent directions. Renewed funding from Canadian Lutheran World Relief for the prison project is a possibility. We trust that God will provide the resources as needed to maintain what seems, according to our assessment and conviction, to be a vital, and much needed, ministry.

We--I, my colleagues and all we work with--thank you for your accompaniment and solidarity, from a distance physically (in most cases), but heart-to-heart spiritually. May God bless us all as we learn to live Jesus' incarnation in God's vulnerable creation, among God's vulnerable children.

Paz, Brian Rude

Pastor / missionary seeking to live the incarnation among the incarcerated in El Salvador

(This is an excerpt for the whole article. Please check out our website at www.stmarkskw.org)

Learning Committee

by Fay Albrecht



As we move into a new year we are pleased to say that for Christmas we provided Anselma House with: 72 pairs of mitts, 20 toques, 11 mitts and scarf sets, 3 sets of mitts, hat and scarf, 2 scarves with mitts, 4 scarves, 2 shawls, 3 pairs

of baby slippers, 6 pairs of adult slippers, 4 pairs of socks. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our "Mitten Tree". Our gifts were very much appreciated, and who can't use extra mitts or slippers.

Thank you to everyone who participated in and helped coordinate the Christmas Pageant on December 18th. There were approximately 20 kids who took part (and many beaming parents and grandparents in the pews). It was a wonderful service!

The children in our BLAST program have started the new year learning about John the Baptist and Jesus' baptism. This will be followed by the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son stories before Easter when the kids will once again dig deeper into the Easter story and what it means to their lives.



Last year we had to cancel plans for a Vacation Bible School because we were not able to recruit

enough staff. The benefits to the children through stories, games and music enrich their lives, so if you would be able to help us in any way in 2012 we'd love to hear from you. Watch for more information and dates.

And if you have any desire at all to teach a 3-week Sunday School rotation, assist, shepherd or help in any way with our BLAST program (faith formation for kids), please talk to Fay Albrecht or Sara Wahl. Any help is always appreciated!

Sunday, February 5, 2012

One Service - 10:15 a.m.

BISHOP W. HURAS (retired)
GUEST PREACHER

ST. MARK'S
99th
ANNIVERSARY

LIGHT LUNCH TO FOLLOW
IN THE PARISH HALL

99th ANNIVERSARY BANNER

COMMEMORATIVE WORSHIP BULLETIN

"Building the Walls of Zion" -
Dr. Jacobi, Canada Lutheran 1939

SPECIAL DISPLAY OF PHOTOS, ARCHITECTURAL
DRAWINGS AND MORE!

*Come celebrate (to the day) when St. Mark's
opened its doors 73 years ago on Sunday,
February 5, 1939.*

Members, if you know of former members and/or family of former members, please encourage them to attend this historic celebration.

AS REPORTED IN KITCHENER'S DAILY RECORD...

*"An overflow congregation of more than 1,000
people waited outside...while H.J. Ball (building
contractor) handed the
key to the edifice to
Rev. A. J. Jacobi...who
opened the doors."*

**New Edifice
Is Dedicated**

Former Pastor Officiates
At St. Mark's Ceremony
Attended by 1,000




SERIALLY (SERIOUSLY) SPEAKING


By Harold Remus


“Serially” – “in ordered sequence.” “Seriously” – “Hey, we’re not just foolin’ around (but we’re not all that solemn either).” As the week unfolds (serially), doors to learning at St. Mark’s open to serious (but-not-so-solemn) serials. Like these:

Day 1, Sunday, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Church Parlour: Adult Education Hour,

 **Feb. 5, Artificial Intelligence, Emotional Intelligence: How do they figure into our lives?** Dr. Peter VanKatwyk, Prof. Emeritus, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Ok, so it’s not part of a series—but that’s because Peter is unique. Now take a look at these. . . .


St. Mark’s (Personal) Story Series


 Feb. 12, *The Woman behind Anne of Green Gables: Her Story/My Story*, Dr. Benjamin Lefebvre, Editor, collected works of Lucy Maud Montgomery.

 Feb. 19, *Hal Tells All (Almost), with Some Show and Tell (on Church, Ministry, World)*, Dr. Harold Remus, Prof. Emeritus, Wilfrid Laurier University.


Lent: God So Loved the World

 **Feb. 26, Healing at L’Arche: What People with Disabilities Taught Me** / James Foley, St. Mark’s, Grand River Hospital.

 **March 4, Sanctuary: Offering Refuge – The Back Story, the Why’s, the Whither’s**, Peter Kuhnert, M.D., Pastor, Maranatha Lutheran Church.

 **March 11, God So Loved the World of the Canadian Working Class that . . .** three examples from our past, Dr. Oz Cole Arnal, Prof. Emeritus, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary.

 **March 18, Front-line Welcome: Ushering As Evangelism**, Fay Albrecht, Brian Reiner, St. Mark’s.

 **March 25, Thinking, Working, Studying Globally—and Bringing it Home**, Holly Pearson, St. Mark’s, studying in Denmark and in International Development at Renison College, Jana Kelly, St. Mark’s, global development work in Ecuador, Mozambique, Bangladesh. April 1 They

Call This Friday Good: God So Loved the World: The Roman World, Today’s World—and the Cross, Dr. Harold Remus.

Day 2, Monday, 9:30-11:00 a.m., Church Parlour: Daily Discipleship

Every Monday these disciples (from St. Mark’s and elsewhere) read and reflect on the Gospel reading for the following Sunday, asking what it meant then and how it applies to a following of Jesus in a world much different (but not so different) from then.

Day 4, Wednesday, 4:45-5:40 p.m., Church Parlour: Community Bible Study

Persons from St. Mark’s and the wider community gather and reflect on selected texts from the Bible (right now, the Psalms) and how they relate to life today.

Day 5, Thursday, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Church Parlour: Prayer Shawl Group

How about knitting and crocheting? Pretty serious serial stuff (knit one, purl one, row upon row), but jokes and laughs (and tears) with prayer along the way, all resulting in shawls given away to mark special days or to honour special persons, including those seeking comfort or in need on a cold day.

Day 7, Saturday, 9:30-11:00 a.m., Church Parlour: The Way Home

These Saturday morning sessions during Lent led by Pastor Nancy Kelly offer preparation for adult baptism or for affirmation of baptism at Easter Vigil in the evening of the last Saturday of Lent.

Synod Scholarship & Spencer-Barche Trust Fund

It is time to make application for the Synod Scholarship / Spencer-Barche Bursary. The fund is made available to those who are seeking post secondary education to encourage youth to continue their education.

An updated Application and Information Form is now available on the Eastern Synod Website. Deadline for completed applications will be May 15, 2012 For further information, questions or concerns, contact Stephanie Clayton (<mailto:sclayton@elcic.ca>) or call 1-877-373-5242

Community Ministry

by Marilyn Shaw

I have often talked about the support we offer to marginalized people in our community. As I sit down to write this I was thinking of a woman who offers support to our friends every year at Christmas and this year at Thanksgiving. Her brother attended our meals every week for many years prior to his death in 2006. At his funeral, another sister shared a eulogy and ended with the words “Thank you for taking care of our brother.”

What struck me today was the thought that not only do we offer support to marginalized people but we facilitate the opportunity for folks to have an opportunity and place to reach out with kindness to people of the community. We offer a place where all are equally welcome to come and share time with each other.

So as another aspect of ministry that we offer is a place to be the hands and feet of Christ in this time and place. I get many calls at Christmas from people who are looking for a place to help serve a meal. People do want to reach out to others but are often not quite sure how to do so. For many there is discomfort thinking about how to be with people who are not as fortunate as them. So we can offer a place where we can accommodate whatever that comfort level is. It is amazing that it isn't too long before someone who has expressed discomfort is eating dinner with everyone else. In the opportunity to meet others as people and hear some of the stories, barriers seem to fall away.

So I suggest we remember what this ministry is. It is not just for those who are in need because they live in poverty, with addictions or health issues but it is also a ministry for those who are in need of understanding our neighbours, for those in need of sharing gifts and for those in need of a deeper meaning of why Jesus ate with the marginalized folks of his day.



I am one of those in need and I am constantly aware of that need being filled and refilled. I am deeply touched by those I spend time with and I feel very privileged and honoured to be invited into their journeys and welcomed to walk alone with them for a time. I have found more meaning in my own life and with that a deeper sense of peace and contentment. I am daily thankful for all I have learned from the neighbours I encounter.

Good neighbours
don't just happen...
they happen one good
neighbour at a time!

Did you know that parking in a fire route is illegal? Who knew?

By Lesley Oakley

Every Sunday when our family arrives at church, we park in the lot off of Green Street behind St. Mark's. It astounds me how many of our parishioners ignore the no parking signs at the back of this lot.

By parking along this barrier you are both blocking a fire route and exiting access for persons who need to back out of their legal parking space in the lot. Doing so is punishable by law as written in the City of Kitchener Bylaw 88-171 – **to designate private roadways as fire routes and to prohibit parking thereon**. Do you have an extra \$2000 laying around that you would like to pay the city for this offence? I certainly don't.



Meet Evelyn Bricker

by Diane Bonfonte

In an age where change comes quickly, communication is instantaneous and demands on our time pushes us constantly, take time to slow down and perhaps garner inspiration from personal life reflections. Presently, the distinction of St. Mark's overall longest, sustaining member befalls Evelyn Bricker.

One steamy mid-July afternoon was the first time I met Evelyn in her cozy room at The Village of Winston Park, Kitchener. Our conversation 'sparkled' with her family history and that is where this story begins.

In 1889, Evelyn's mother Anna 'Tilly' Herr was born on a farm near Neustadt. Tilly was two when her mother passed away. She was raised in her aunt's family. Circa 1909, she came to Kitchener where some of her girlfriends lived. In Tilly's late teens, she worked as the housekeeper for two "maiden ladies" at 128 Queen Street, North - one of the few original stately homes remaining. The nephew of these women was A.Y. Jackson - artist, Group of Seven.

During winter months, A.Y. often resided with his maiden aunts and at his uncle Jeremiah Suddaby's home. Suddaby Public School opened in 1857 - named after its second principal who held this position for 55 years! His approach to education was very progress for the day. In 1882 (Berlin), Suddaby began Ontario's first pre-school class known as kindergarten. A.Y. Jackson's oil portrait of his uncle still hangs in Suddaby School. Evelyn recalls seeing it as a student. Her mother had fond memories of how well she was treated in the Jacksons' employ.

Albert August Pinke was the 2nd youngest of seven. His mother was a young widow and he worked delivering meat for a local butcher shop. Tilly met Albert at the Jackson's kitchen door to take deliveries and eventually, she took him into her own heart.

Tilly and Albert wed in 1914 at home and purchased a house on Pinke Street (Wilhelm to Guelph now Weber Street). Albert was a postman. His route included the North Ward of Berlin that was known for its Polish immigrant families residing alongside with German. Albert spoke some German. Evelyn recalls how pleased he was to help people even assisting to translate their mail (from English).

Albert's uncle, Rheinhardt Pinke, built the homes on Pinke Street. *Rheinhardt Street still exists - Kitchener's 2nd shortest street. Pre-Depression, this area had a rural character with chickens and pigs in backyards and butchering days were neighbourhood events! There were four furniture factories in the vicinity - lots of tradesmen for employment. Between Louisa and Wilhelm, at the foot of Pinke, people walked to Weber taking this short cut along the railroad tracks. This was considered trespassing on C.N.R. lands and if caught, their police would issue a hefty two dollar fine!*Paraphrased from Waterloo Historical Society Report, 1989.



Since 1956, the Pinke Street name is no more. With the planned widening of Weber Street, Evelyn's first home is one of many scheduled to be demolished along with Rheinhardt Street.

Evelyn was born on May 7, 1917 and baptized that same year by Rev. Henry J. Behrens - first Pastor of First English Lutheran. She had a younger brother, Kenneth. The family lived on 81 Hohner Avenue as recorded in First English's 1936 "Reference Book And Church Directory". A copy of this is entombed in St. Mark's cornerstone. Telephone numbers are few but Evelyn recalls theirs -1309J. Her Uncle Henry and his family were members too (recorded in First English's 1930, "Year Book and Church Directory").

First English held annual summer picnics in Victoria Park and everyone "laid out what they brought" - one big Lutheran outdoor buffet! Games included races which she often won, receiving no prize. She also recalls picnics at a "place near Guelph" - Camp Edgewood. She loved weekly league swing bowling at St. Mark's (once a lawn now today's parking lot).

Mrs. Esch was her Sunday School Superintendant, "the big room in the basement at First English had partitions to accommodate all the classes." In fact, Mrs. Esch taught for over twenty years, served as Home Cradle Roll Helper, Light Brigade Supervisor, Cloverleaf Society and Ladies Aid member. Her daughter, Kathleen (resides in her home, Orillia) and Evelyn were good friends and keep in touch. In 1932, their class was confirmed on Palm Sunday and on Easter Sunday, celebrated their first communion - both of these occasions were held on these Sundays for decades. After, they each "taught a class of young children".

"Dr. Maurer was very well liked" and as a child she thought "he seemed next to God". Dr. Maurer had a 'fatherly' demeanor yet commanded much confidence and respect with his intellect,

kindness and presence. People were drawn to him which contributed to the growth of First English. In the 1930 'Year Book...' it reports; 400+ adult members and 296 scholars. Its calendar includes "Catechetical Instruction and Teachers' Training from the first week in October to Palm Sunday."

Evelyn attended Suddaby and advanced "by two years". Being younger than her classmates wasn't easy, "experimenting in the system was not a good thing." Like many young women, she graduated K.C.I with "special commercial and matriculation subjects". Her first full-time job was at Gallaway Furniture utilizing her clerical skills.

Many of her girlfriends were involved with the "Y". Evelyn was invited "with the girls" for a week at a cottage beyond Bridgeport along the Grand River. One evening, a group of "young boys bicycled to the cottage bringing watermelon and chocolate cake". It was here she met Wilton (Will) Bricker. With another couple, they got together again to spend a day at Paradise Lake "Y" camp. Soon they become 'a couple'.

In 1937, driving with her parents, Evelyn was in a "horrendous accident because the Coupe's brakes failed". With no seat belts, she was thrown through the windshield. Plans for marriage were delayed a few years. Their wedding flowers were donated from the garden of Louise Dessler's father-in-law - Jacob Jacob Herchenraeter (same first and second name). For years from his large garden at 599 Park Street, he provided flowers to adorn our sanctuary for funerals, weddings and other occasions. Louise confided "that if a flower was out of place, Jacob would have noticed".

On July 20th, 1940 Dr. Jacobi officiated - the 33rd marriage at St. Mark's. This denotes a second distinction for Evelyn - the earliest St. Mark's bride who is a member today!

Will worked "at B.F. Goodrich as Foreman for the physical testing lab" of rubber (retiring at age 65). They built a home at 59 Lydia Street, Kitchener with a typical coal bin that was eventually converted to a cold cellar to store her canning. The large backyard is dominated by a towering, old maple tree they planted so many years ago. After Will's passing in 2003, Evelyn lived there until 2008 - totaling 63 years!

Son Larry (born, 1943) and wife Trudy live in Waterloo. Her daughter Lynne (born, 1946) lives in Ottawa. Evelyn has a grandson Shan and wife Carolyn. Elise, Isaiah and Paige are her great-grandchildren.

Evelyn keeps busy attending music events and five afternoons are dedicated to playing cards (mostly bridge). She also enjoys guest speakers including weekly Wednesday afternoons 'Chaplain's Chat'.

In her room hangs her own two beautiful needlepoint pictures along with many family photos. A treasured family heirloom is a sculptured wooden chair "over 100 years old". On a table are St. Mark's 85th Anniversary cards sent last year at Christmas

and Easter. Yet, Evelyn's most treasured possession is her prayer shawl given by St. Mark's. It rests on her arm chair so "it's handy at all times and acts as a cover for a nap" (which I doubt doesn't happen very often).

We should all be proud and pleased to have such a lovely, warm and gracious lady presently holding two historic distinctions at St. Mark's!

*"May God Bless You and
Keep You Always Evelyn!!"*

Showcase

January - February - March - April

St. Mark's Anniversary

"BUILDING THE WALLS OF ZION"

**ST. MARK'S 99th ANNIVERSARY
NEW SHOWCASE DISPLAY**

Architectural drawings - Directories - Photos

A few newly acquired items donated
to our archives from former members
and/or their families.

WE ARE BLESSED!

Baptism!

*Aidan Velaidum –
December 3, 2011*



How We Grow

by Dorothy Hall

In getting ready to come to Ghana I was told many different things about what to expect. Some people told me I was going to have the time of my life. Others told me to have a clear route to the airport planned in case I had to get out in a hurry. I was told to expect a million marriage proposal and significant attention from men. I was told what to bring and what not to bring by people who had never gone to Africa but were natural experts. And the Culture Shock, I was going to have massive amounts of that and be miserable all the time! All of this information came from people who cared about me and how my year would go, some of it was helpful and some slightly misleading. But then again if I had to give someone advice on what to do before coming to Ghana, I would probably be useless and tell them to bring a sweater (although it's not a bad idea). The truth is no matter what people tell you to do or bring, you will never be prepared for what actually awaits you. You may never get homesick, or you could really struggle, you could find the culture completely different and find yourself working hard to understand or you could feel as if you are stepping into your natural environment. Everyone is different and experiences different things and these are some of the things that I have experienced to date.

The first week I had arrived so many different things were happening and the city that I was living in – Accra – seemed to be moving at an incredible pace. It was very overwhelming all at once, and no matter how much I told myself this is what I was expecting it never changed the fact that it was a huge mental shift. The people I was travelling with became very important to me because they helped me process what I was experiencing all around me and I owe them a great debt of thanks. Our little group found the simplest parts of Ghanaian life the most exciting thing to ever happen in the history of the universe. For instance, goats, there were tonnes of these adorable little guys all over the place roaming for grass to eat. We Canadians of course had to take pictures of all the adorable goats and Ghanaians around us just giggled to themselves because they did not know why we would be taking pictures of animals that would be slaughtered for food very soon. But they were so cute (especially when they climbed on fences) and I undertook the job of naming every goat I could find. I have of course run out of name ideas.

Within the first week there was a football (soccer) match that was being played in Accra. It was the last one to take place in Ghana for the year. We all decided to go, and this was a fantastic decision. We were all very excited, and many of us myself included knew very little about football but decided to



Dorothy at a waterfall



Christmas Tree

go and scream a lot and pretend we knew what was going on. After all how hard could it be to understand? We just cheer for the Ghanaian team and they run up and down the field kicking a ball. It was going to be great. The atmosphere at the stadium was electric people were running to get to the stadium to get tickets there were vendors selling food and souvenirs, there was so much happening all around us. Once we all arrived we got our tickets and joined the queue. I was standing near the end of the line and wasn't very aware of what was happening at the front because I was caught up in the dynamic atmosphere. There was a security guard who decided to let us bypass the line all together and led up straight into the theatre. The reason he did this wasn't because there was an exceptionally long line and it needed to be cut in half, it was because we were a group of white people. This is the first time in Ghana that I expressly recall experiencing what our group coined "white people privilege." This happens when people treat you better simply because you are white. It takes many different forms, but no matter what the form it will always leave you feeling guilty and out of place. In Canada there was no reason for me to pay attention to race, I was part of a majority and multiculturalism is embraced strongly in our community, racism does exist but when you hear it you are expected to speak out against it. Here I learned that race is thought about constantly and here it is possible to see how it blatantly affects what happens to

you. I am never discriminated against. I am treated better. It's not how I wish to be treated or how I wish people interacted but it is a social reality that was created long before me.

I was lucky enough to attend church one Sunday with my host family. It was quite a different setting than Sunday morning at St Marks. First thing I noticed was there was no organ, no bulletin and no hymnals. I don't really know if I attended a church or a party with very well dressed people. There was dancing, singing, clapping, cheering, screaming, marching, and rolling on the floor. The minister at the front spoke into two microphones and was yelling but I still couldn't hear him over the crowd. The service was also carried out in two different languages English and Twi. There was a strong sense of passion and general joy about the church I visited. I was scared that going to church in Ghana would be something I would not be able to relate to because it would be so different but I did not find that at all. All of the characteristics of St Marks that I hold dear I found here: a community that loves to sing laugh and share lives; the occasional child crying or running down the aisle; the friendly Ushers that welcome you and guide you into the sanctuary when you are a little uncertain how to proceed; members of the congregation that bring food and stories to share with one another; a minister who greets and comforts members

of the congregation; and finally, my favourite part, the choir conductor who waves her arms with vigour and can't help but sing along too.

One thing I feel that was never told to me before I arrived here is to remember that people are the same everywhere. We all want the same things: security, health, love and happiness. And although it is an adjustment I can find a niche here in Ghana just like I did in Kitchener Ontario. That is often why I find it puzzling when I am set apart from the country I am coming to call home. The truth is even though I can relate to people here just as easily at home I am different because I was given different opportunities. I was lucky to be born where I was in the community that I was. The freedom that I have always experienced is not normal for the majority of the world's population. After being here I know there are things I will never take for granted again, such as: eating three meals a day that show case so much variety and abundance, trusting water and food to not make me sick, reading a book, and understanding the language being spoken around me. There are many other things that I will never take for granted again but I think the message is clear. I live a blessed life and am very grateful for all that I have been given, and am grateful to be in Ghana and learning so much more about myself and others.

Laurel and Marc Sargent: *Living the 100:Mile Diet*

by Harold Remus

At the Oct. 16 Adult Education Hour Laurel and Marc Sargent spoke about living 100 days on a 100-mile diet, why they chose to do so – to support local producers, for the environment, and for their health – and the challenges it posed. Among these was where to find local products. They kindly supplied a partial list of suppliers, to make it easier for others to do the 100/100 as well .

- Kitchener or St. Jacob's market: meat, produce, eggs.
- Guelph market: sprouts.
- Heidelberg, Stemmlers: meat, including gluten-free products.
- Millbank: cheeses from cow, sheep, and goat milk.
- Bright, RR 1, and Shakespeare: Bright cheeses of various varieties.
- Wellesley: apples, apple products.
- Tavistock, Oak Manor Farms: flours, cornmeal , oats.

- Niagara: wineries; Gold Crown brewery.
- Loft Market (519-618-1071): delivers Community Shared Agriculture produce to Kitchener, Waterloo, Cambridge, Guelph.
- Waterloo: Harmony Organic Farmers: dairy products sold in Waterloo at Eating Well Organically, Healthy Food and More, Brady's Meat and Deli (http://harmonyorganic.on.ca/page/where_to_buy).
- Mapleton's Organic dairy (Wellington Road 7 at Sideroad 15, near Minto): ice cream. (http://www.google.com/search?sourceid=navclient&ie=UTF-8&rlz=1T4GGLJ_enCA278CA284&q=mapleton+organic+dairy+inc)
- Waterloo: Full Circle Foods, Healthy Food and More: grains, sunflower oil, gluten-free products.
- St. Jacobs (corner of Sawmill Rd & Hwy 85): Picard's: peanuts plain and seasoned, peanut brittle, etc.
- Goderich: Windsor Salt.

Laurel and Marc continue to keep to the diet as much as possible and encourage others to try the 100/100. They will be happy to supply more information or to answer questions (519-893-4775).

