

50th Anniversary Of Dedication Of Sanctuary



"HITHERTO HATH THE LORD HELPED US", AND WE PRESS FORWARD, BELIEVING THAT "HE WHO HATH BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN US WILL COMPLETE IT UNTO THE END." TO HIM BE ALL THE PRAISE. (H. C. N. - 1922)



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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SIMCOE

**136TH ANNIVERSARY
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**50th Anniversary of
Dedication of Sanctuary**

One hundred and thirty-six years have elapsed since the date of the organization of the Simcoe Baptist Church; time has wrought great changes within the church and without.

Of that little group of 12, composed of six men and six women, who with unbounded faith in almighty God met on Saturday, July 9th, 1836 and organized themselves into this church, no one of course remains, but "their names surely liveth forever."

To the very large majority of our present membership the past is a sealed book into which they may only take a hasty glimpse to-day. It has been said that it requires as much wisdom to rightly direct the work of a church as to guide the affairs of country. Something of the truth of this is realized when one looks over our records, which have been well kept through all the years.

On many occasions the church has found herself in trying circumstances. There have been hard problems to solve and great difficulties to overcome. Wise counsel and prompt action on the part of the church and her officials have been required on many occasions to tide her over the rough places to safety.

Through these trying experiences, the good hand of God has led her and guided her by a wisdom greater than her own; we trust with the understanding gained and strength acquired from the past, she may go on to larger service in coming days.

The first pastor of the church, Rev. Wm. Smith, whom the church assisted by a visiting council was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on the Sunday immediately following its organization.

That the young church was vigorous and seized with a conception of her mission is seen in the fact that the members came together not many weeks after organization to consider the building of a house of worship. To the little company this was a great undertaking, but a minute from a meeting

held Nov. 9th, 1836 reads thus, "Resolved that trusting Almighty God for success, we do circulate subscription papers among our friends and the public for the purpose of building a meeting house in the Village of Simcoe and that a lot be provided in a convenient place as soon as possible upon which to build the said house."

Erection of the church began Feb. 11th, 1837 on the present site, they were assisted by brethren from Townsend and Vittoria, also by the citizens of the village, with money, material and labor. They were enabled to meet for worship in the new church the same year, although it was not completed until 1838. When finished the church was free of debt.

The membership grew in goodly numbers by baptism and by letter from sister churches and the work prospered. In these early days, discipline was strict and the credentials of those applying for membership either by profession of faith or by letter were carefully scrutinized, and members who failed to walk orderly and to dutifully observe their obligations to the church were promptly dealt with.

In 1845 an unfortunate incident arose which greatly disturbed the unity of the church and finally resulted in 25 members withdrawing and forming what was known as the Second Baptist Church of Simcoe. This division was a source of grief and confusion and a great detriment to the good name and work of Baptists. There were those faithful ones who mourned over the strife and never ceased to pray that God would heal the differences that divided his church. Days of prayer and fasting were held at various times in the hope that the differences that divided them might be healed. However, it was only after several approaches that in 1863 the breach was healed and the church reunited. Immediately following the reunion the church under the leadership of Rev. J.E. Ryerson, D.D. experienced a revival and many were brought into fellowship of the church.

In 1867 the church met with a serious setback through destruction by fire of their house of worship.

Steps were taken immediately to rebuild and a new brick church was built on the present site and opened on Sept.



INSCRIPTION:

"He is not here but He is risen"

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas E. Miller 1881 - 1919. This memorial is placed here by wife and mother.

INTERPRETATION:

The angel of God stands victoriously over the open tomb and tells the women who came early to the tomb that Jesus is not there; that he is alive again; and will meet them in Galilee. Note the three crosses on a lonely hill in the background, and the expressions of wonder on the faces of the women.

9th, 1869 this taking place under the pastorate of Rev. A. Scott. From this point the work of the Lord went on steadily with intermittent revivals adding to the membership.

For a period of years little of historical importance happened in the church. Then on April 18th, 1913 the church was burned for a second time, the extent of the damage making the building a total loss. Services were held in a theatre and later a hall until such times as a new building could be erected.

On May 14th, 1913 a committee was appointed to consider rebuilding; but plans submitted by the committee were so expensive and extensive that rebuilding could not be proceeded with at once. Since the original church was destroyed by fire and rebuilt still more accommodation was required. The solution to the problem was the building of the Sunday School Hall.

The Rev. H. C. Newcombe was called to the pastorate in Sept. 1913 and under his capable leadership the church moved forward. Not until January 1919 was there a move toward building the present church edifice; a committee headed by Mr. H.R. Crabb was appointed to look after the raising of funds.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid on Sept. 1st, 1921, and the dedication took place on May 21st, 1922. The total cost of the building being \$61,000.00 or almost twenty times that of the church erected 40 years before. The construction was under the capable supervision of Mr. D.D. Gunton the permanence of the sanctuary being a tribute to his workmanship; Mr. Gunton was a senior member of the church. The mortgage was burned June 2nd, 1943, a fitting end to years of effort.

Since the dedication of the sanctuary there have been seven pastors including

1913 - 1926	Rev. H. C. Newcombe
1926 - 1936	Rev. F. H. Wentworth
1937 - 1943	Rev. R. M. Simmons
1943 - 1950	Rev. G. V. Crofoot
1950 - 1960	Rev. D. H. Lamb
1960 - 1971	Rev. O. L. Davidson
1971 -	Rev. H. R. Cowie

Rev. Harold Cowie has been with us for the past year. Each of the men who has served as our spiritual leader over the years, has in his own way contributed to our spiritual and financial well being.

Some highlights of the past should be mentioned; since June 24th, 1956 the pastors have given a brief meditation each Sunday morning over radio station CFRS. Sept 9th, 1956 saw the dedication of the Memorial Casavant Organ in memory of the men who gave their lives in World War II 1939 - 1946.

Commemorating a membership of 76 years Mrs. Lola Schuyler was presented with a pin on June 16th, 1957.

In the hope that our church's financial position improve, the Sector Plan of financing was adopted on October 24th, 1958 for a three year period, and during this period our finances improved greatly as did the interest in church activities.

The year 1959 saw another venture brought to a successful conclusion when the old parsonage was sold and a new one purchased on April 28th, 1959.

The opportunity to purchase the Tisdale property adjoining the church was taken advantage of in September 1962 to insure the church against future needs.

After 136 years of witnessing there is no way to determine the effect upon the moral and spiritual life of the community.



CONVENTION PRESIDENT

Harry C. Judd

In June of 1966 a unique privilege for service came to Mr. Harry C. Judd when he was elected to the office of the President of the 50,000 member Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec. His duties as president included visits to many of the 400 convention churches.

Mr. Judd became a member of First Baptist Church in 1928 and has served

as a member of the board of deacons, board of managers, church clerk, Sunday School Teacher and Superintendent, and chairman of the Christian Education Committee.

This is the first time in the history of the Norfolk Association of Baptist Churches that one of its representatives has served as president of the convention - a signal honour for Mr. Judd himself, his church, his community, and the association.



REV. HARLEY C. NEWCOMBE



REV. F. H. WENTWORTH



REV. R. MURRAY SIMMONS



REV. GORDON V. CROFOOT



REV. DANA H. LAMB



REV. OTTIS L. DAVIDSON

CHURCH CHOIR

It would be interesting to know how long it would take an imaginary procession of all the people who have sung in the choir in the past 136 years to pass a given point. No doubt, quite a number of hymns would have been sung through!

In 1937, Mrs. Victor Matthews (Helen) became a very worthy successor to a long line of organists and choir leaders - to mention just a few - Mr. Isaac Church, Mr. A.M. Barber, Mrs. Cassidy, Mrs. H.H. Schuyler, Mr. P.G. Marshall and Mrs. F.H. Wentworth, Mr. Stanley Bryan, Mrs. Victor Matthews (Maisie), and Mr. Roy Lacey. Mrs. Matthews took over the leadership of the choir in September, 1960.

During the years, the choir has presented a number of concerts and cantatas, in addition to taking part in the worship services of the church.

At various times, we have had the privilege of being a part of a massed choir for special occasions - such as the Dr. Leighton Ford Crusade.

The Christian Church has come "singing down the ages" and it is our prayer that our choir may continue to have a part in the ministry of our church not only to its members but also to all who may attend.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education work in our church began to really strengthen and become active in the year 1954 with the coming of Miss Agnes Lee as our Director of Christian Education. A committee was formed to work with Miss Lee in the planning and administration of a program of Christian Education to help both children and adults to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

For almost seven years our church had one of the finest Christian Education programs, in the Convention. Various groups such as CGIT and BYPU won merit awards. It was with regret at this time that the resignation of Miss Agnes Lee was accepted that she might continue her training at Hartford Seminary.

At the Annual Meeting in 1961, it was recommended and carried that the committee who had worked with Miss Lee be

WAR MEMORIAL

1956 saw the installation and dedication of the Memorial Casavant Organ placed in memory of:

Donald Culver	Milton Smoke
Harold Renton	Robert Stuart
John Rutledge	Roy Woodey

who made the ultimate sacrifice, their lives, in World War II, (1939 - 1945).

This fine instrument is the work of the Casavant Frères Ltd. of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec. 1392 separate pipes, ranging in length from 16' to ¼" produces the magnificent and inspiring sounds - a very fitting remembrance for these men of valour.



re-constituted into a Board of Christian Education working directly as liaison between the Board and the various departments of Christian Education.

In June of 1961, Miss Martha Worthy became our new Director and gave most capable leadership until November 1962 when she submitted her resignation. In 1965, Miss Joan Sutton, was hired as a student Director in our church, then filled the Director's office until March of 1968.

Since this time due to the almost non-existence of Christian Education Directors, the Board of Christian Education has endeavoured to send, whenever possible, workers to special training camps or sessions realizing how important new training methods are. The Board's major problem has been the prevailing shortage of leadership but has been blessed with several loyal workers, who are willing to give of their time in these busy days, that others may learn of God's way and his great love in Jesus Christ.



REV. HAROLD R. COWIE



MR. HARRY CULVER



MRS. VICTOR MATTHEWS



MISS AGNES LEE



MR. HENRY CRABB



MR. HARRY C. JUDD

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The actual starting date for our Sunday School is unknown but the records do show that in the year 1850 and following, a Sunday School was conducted by Mr. Asa Cook. Mr. Cook lived in the village of Vittoria and actually walked to Simcoe each Sunday to lead the school.

Later records are sketchy until the date 1906 when Mr. Henry Crabb was appointed to the Superintendency. This hard working servant of God devoted 40 years to this important work.

Under the ministry of Rev. P. K. Dayfoot (1905 - 1910) and the work of Mr. Crabb, tremendous strides were made in the school. Rev. Dayfoot was an outstanding leader in Sunday School development during his entire lifetime.

After the church and Sunday School burned down on May 15, 1913, a new school was built by David Gunton and his associates. This was constructed on the "Akron" Plan. It provided a two storey building with the classes on both levels facing a platform to facilitate teaching or leading from a central position. The church auditorium was delayed in building by World War I. Therefore the school was a busy place accommodating all of the activities. Even the present baptistry was used with the opening facing into the Sunday School.

With the new auditorium completed in 1922 accommodation for Sunday School was more available and attendance was high for many years. One Sunday a record was set of 388. Many members were won for Christ during these years. From 1960 onwards attendance records tended to drop until 1968-69 when a low point was reached of about 100 per Sunday. Since then the number has started to increase again and now averages about 125 per Sunday.

Classes are conducted every Sunday morning from 9:45 to 10:45 excepting during July and August. The teaching during the summer months was stopped in 1965 when a unified church and school service was under experimentation and was not continued in 1966.

Special events usually observed each year are:

Rally Day in September, Flower Sunday

or Children's Sunday in June. Christmas parties have turned from concerts to a skating party with a feast in the church dining hall. Promotion and awards Sunday comes in June. Church and school picnic is a happy time for all enjoyed at the Forestry farm.

Some form of teacher training sessions are held each year. At least twice, in 1959 and 1962, a Norfolk Association of Baptist Churches training sessions were successfully arranged in our school. A Sunday School Rally of the Association on Sept. 30/1962 attracted a record of 549.

Although Gospel teaching and evangelism with Bible study is the aim and objective of our teaching, a special event in Simcoe was the Leighton Ford Campaign during the winter of 1962-63. The Leighton Ford team was part of the Billy Graham organization and gave a very uplifting experience.

Through the years various teaching and study materials have been utilized. For many years Sunday School Papers were a weekly attraction but these were discontinued in 1965. The publications of David C. Cook and the Sunday School Times were used for many years, then we changed to the United Press - Baptist Publications. These came to an end in 1965 and American Baptist Convention materials as published by the Judson Press have been the source of materials since then.

To list all of the classes and teachers through the life of the school would be impossible but memories of several have been preserved in previous publications of our church history. Outstanding was the won-by-one class of adults, organized in 1916. It became very popular. In 1952 it was merged with two other classes and named the Goodwill Class to continue the good work. Mr. Bert Dawes' class of young men was a successful group from about 1925 until Bert enlisted in 1941. From this class came many of our men leaders and workers.

Many other classes should be mentioned such as Mrs. Marks' Primary Class during the 1930's and 40's. The Kindergarten and nursery classes where the beginners are introduced to the stories of Jesus. As the students grow in stature and wis-



INSCRIPTION:

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

INTERPRETATION:

A soldier of the Great War stands in front of the destruction of war. His face is towards the light of better days and hopefully, PEACE. Draped across his shoulder is the Union Jack, while lower down is his battalion flag. On the left panel we see the sword of the word of God standing in front of the shield of faith. On the right panel the torch of freedom rests against the laurel wreath of victory.



dom, the Junior and Intermediate classes are the attraction. Teachers such as Dorothy Walton, Annie Miller, Loren Fleming, Dr. Ralph Smith, Dr. Sarah Cook and others cannot be forgotten.

Music and hymns have always played an important role in our school. The piano was the principal instrument used in leading and the name of Miss Marguerite House is one who played for many years. Mrs. R. Baskerville was another faithful pianist. Mrs. V. Matthews has helped greatly.

Although Christian Education Directors have been a comparatively recent help they have made an important contribution to the school. The first was Miss Agnes Lee, who came in October 1953 and was highly valued until she resigned in July 1960 to attend Hartford Seminary. Next was Miss Martha Worthy 1961-62 then Miss Joan Sutton who worked well during 1965-1966.

The name of Mr. Henry Crabb was mentioned as superintendent and he undoubtedly made the greatest impact on the lives of many, many pupils from 1906-1946. His kindly persuasive manner and contact with large numbers of people induced unlimited numbers to the school and church. He was an important member of the staff of the H.S. Falls Store, then in charge of the Walkers' Store until he retired.

Mr. Harry Culver assisted Mr. Crabb for a long time then took over the Superintendency in 1946. He rendered most faithful and reliable leadership until 1957. Mr. Culver was followed for short terms by Mr. Loren Fleming and Mr. Harry Judd. In 1961 Mr. Walter McConnell was the superintendent until 1967. Mr. Gordon McCrack-

en was the leader in 1968-69. Mr. Judd conducted in 1970-71 until the present incumbent, Mr. D. Alex Ulch, was elected to office.

Among the assistant superintendents we also find the names of Harold Potts, Eric Bryan, Elmer Fleming, and Barry Yager. Barry later became a graduate of McMaster Divinity College and ordained to the ministry in Ottawa.

The list of secretaries is equally long but again some other names are noted: Harvey McPherson, Robert Dalby, Elgin Austin, Bruce Payne, and Catherine Windus.

A review of the treasurers reveal Mrs. Hazel Farr, Mrs. Jean Weir, Mrs. D. Moyer, Mrs. George Irving, Mr. V. C. Harris, Miss Olive Green and Mrs. Margaret Rose Gunton.

The present officers and teachers in "The school of the church" are as follows:

Superintendent — Mr. D. Alex Ulch

Asst. Superintendent — Mr. Douglas Porter

Secretaries — Mr. Elgin Austin, Earl Austin and Mr. Elmer Fleming

Treasurers — Mrs. D. Moyer and Miss Olive Green

Teachers — Mrs. D. Porter

Mrs. R. White Mrs. D. Stewart

Mrs. R. Good Mrs. E. Roberts

Mrs. W. Mason Mrs. D. Lindsay

Mrs. L. Ilton Miss Ruth Fleming

Miss Olive Green Mrs. D. Shepherd

Mrs. L. Snively Mrs. R. Ferris

Miss Brenda Ilton Mrs. R. Osborne

Mrs. G. Irving Mr. Richard Ulch

Mrs. J. Wallace Mrs. D. Gunton

Mr. Paul Davidson Dr. S. Cook

Mr. Norman Kerr Miss Ruth Windus



MURIEL HARRINGTON MISSION CIRCLE

In the fall of 1950, interested persons in First Baptist Church set to work to see if a Young Women's Mission Circle could be organized. Those chiefly responsible were the pastor and his wife, Rev. Dana and Mrs. Lamb, and the presidents of the two circles. Mrs. Bruce Snively was president of the Senior Circle (now Dr. Sarah Cook Circle) and Mrs. Russell Gunton was then president of the Mildred Smith Circle. All interested young people were invited to attend a meeting at the church on Sept. 26, 1950 for the purpose of organizing a Young Women's Mission Circle. Miss Muriel Harrington, soon to leave to serve her first term as a missionary in Bolivia, spoke to the group. She told about her call to the Mission Field, which came while she was living in Simcoe and a member of this Church. Mrs. Carman Farr acted as chairman and Mrs. Bruce Snively

as advisor. That night, with twenty young women present, the Muriel Harrington Young Women's Circle was formed.

Mrs. Farr was president for one year, followed by Miss Mary Massecar, Miss Shirley Casselton, Mrs. Marvyn Veale, Mrs. Robert Dalby, Mrs. Monte Kitchen, Mrs. Howard Showers, Mrs. Jean Good, Mrs. Elmer Fleming, Mrs. William Weir, Miss Mary Morris, and Mrs. Lewis Ilton who is now president.

One of the early projects of the Circle was donations of Christmas gifts for the children visited by Miss Kathleen Ford and Miss Evelyn Slack, who were Home Missionaries working among the new Canadians of Norfolk County.

At one time, 1952-55, three of our members, Mrs. Carman Farr, Miss Elin Schuyler and Mrs. Harvey McPherson (formerly Margaret Wallace) visited new Canadians in their homes and taught them basic English.

The affiliation with CGIT was started in 1955. On February 4, 1960, the name of the Circle was changed to the Muriel Harrington Mission Circle, no longer being a Young Women's Circle. At present the group is busy with White Cross Work.

Being made aware of the needs of Eastwood Centre in Hamilton, the Circle members have since 1965 sent donations of food, used clothing, toys and sports equipment, usually around Christmas time.

Since 1966 one meeting a year has been devoted to visitation of the shut-ins of the congregation, and taking each a small gift of flowers and sweets. In 1970 Senior citizens were invited to an afternoon of games, with a dinner to follow, at the

church. This idea is now an annual event. The regular meeting follows after the guests have been taken home.

During the past twenty-one years, a greater knowledge of our Mission Fields in Bolivia, India, and more recently, Angola has been acquired. The group has followed with keen interest and with prayer, the work of Muriel Harrington in Bolivia. Dr. Sarah Cook and Mrs. Ralph E. Smith have been a great help on numerous occasions in bringing the work in India closer to all. They have spoken to the group several times and also entertained in the home. The present active membership is 30.



MILDRED SMITH MISSION CIRCLE

February 23rd, 1892 is an historical date in connection with the present Mildred Smith Mission Circle, because it was then under the leadership of Mrs. D. Dack, the Pastor's wife, a society was organized known as the Young Ladies Mission Circle.

Through the years this circle has been active in all branches of Mission work of the church. About 1943 the organization was renamed the Mildred Smith Mission Circle in honor of Mrs. R.E. Smith, missionary to India, who had long been of much help and inspiration to the members.

Presidents through the years have been: Miss Gertrude Marshall, Mrs. Thomas Toombs, Mrs. Russell Gunton, Miss Ruth Windus, Mrs. L. Liley, Miss Ada Price, Miss Catherine Windus and Miss Olive Green.

In 1951, under the leadership of Miss Slack, New Canadian Missionary for Norfolk County, several members undertook to teach Basic English to New Canadians, mostly Dutch ladies.

In 1952 we held a Christian Fellowship Social for New Canadian friends, which has become an annual event.

The main purpose of our group is to help support the work of the Women's Mission Board on the Mission Field of our denomination, which includes preparation of White Cross parcels for use in hospitals, and sending food parcels to missionaries on the field. Our financial allotment has been met each year.

Our Circle has assisted in Mission week-ends in the church, participates in the Women's Day of Prayer, Baptist Women's Day of Prayer and assists with CGIT work.

DR. SARAH COOK MISSION CIRCLE

This organization came into being in 1926 under the name of the Senior Mission Circle. The first president was Mrs. Robert Gunton, the first Secretary was Mrs. E. Mark (who served in this capacity until 1951) and the first treasurer was Mrs. Roy Wallace (who served until 1947).

The names of the following presidents are: Mrs. Lucy Miller (Honorary), Mrs. Mary Whitside (Honorary), Mrs. H.H. Schuyler, Mrs. F.H. Wentworth, (7 years) Mrs. Percy McDonald, Mrs. H. Dawes, Mrs. J.A. Wallace (4 years) Mrs. G. Crofoot, (1945-48) Mrs. D.D. Gunton, Mrs. Bruce Snively, Mrs. Frank Shearer (7 years) Mrs. V.C. Harris (1961-66) Mrs. S. Bagdon (1966-67) and Mrs. W. Cookson (1967-72).

Secretaries following Mrs. E. Mark are Mrs. M.L. House (1951-65), Mrs. J. Lusk (1965-67), and Mrs. V. Matthews (1967-72).

Treasurers following Mrs. Wallace are: Miss Mary Wark, Mr. W.L. Bowden, Mrs. V. Harris, Mrs. F. Beaupre, and Mrs. F. Ferguson.

The name of the organization was changed to the Dr. Sarah Cook Mission Circle in January of 1956 when Dr. Cook retired from medical missions in India and came to Simcoe to make her home with Mrs. Ralph Smith.

Upon reading minute books of this organization, one is struck by the faithfulness, devotion, generosity and missionary zeal of the members down through the years. Raising money for yearly allotments, preparation of White Cross parcels for India, study books and reading course books were all very important to them.

Due to changing circumstances we cannot carry on as an organization and will merge with the Mildred Smith Mission Circle in April. The name of the new organization has not been decided upon.

About 1884 a Young People's Society was formed in the Simcoe Baptist Church by the Rev. Mr. Turnbull who was pastor for only a short time. It was more of a literary society, meeting usually at the various homes.

On July 7-8, 1891 the first really representative gathering of Baptist Young People was held in Chicago to form a National Organization, with 621 delegates present, eight of these from Canada. Here the BYPU of America began.

On May 4-5, 1892, a convention was held in Bloor St. Baptist Church, Toronto, with 800 delegates and the BYPU of Ontario and Quebec was organized.

As the call had gone out to all the young people to form unions, Simcoe was interested and sent as delegates the president, the late R.E. Gunton and the secretary, the late G.R. Austin, to the second International Convention held in the Armouries at Detroit, July 1892. As a result, in the fall of 1892 our local union was organized at the home of the pastor, Rev. D. Dack, on Culver St.

The membership at its organization was 13 charter members who were members of the church and signed their name to the BYPU pledge. Later an associate membership was added, these young people were regular attendants but not members of the church.

During the 1940's the BYPU of First Baptist Church, Simcoe was a thriving organization. At that time it had a membership of about sixty, some of whom were in the service, stationed at the army camp, and were therefore able to attend the meetings. The young people met regularly and enjoyed Christian fellowship together. One of their projects was to publish a monthly newspaper.

At the end of the war many of the members left this district and young peoples dwindled until about the 1950's. In 1950-51

the membership was about 15. The Union took part in the activities of the Norfolk Association. One of their projects was the production of the drama "Joseph of Arimathea".

About two years later the attendance reached twenty. Some of the projects were to purchase drapes for the church parlour and the presentation of a pupil Bible to the church.

After Miss Agnes Lee became Director of Christian Education in 1954 the work of the BYPU as well as the other youth activities flourished.

In 1959 six delegates attended the 68th Annual Convention in Montreal where the David Ingram Memorial Trophy was presented to the union for being the most efficient union in the Convention of Ontario and Quebec. Again in 1960 the union was presented with the trophy for the second consecutive year.

Probably, one of the most important aspects of 1961 was the BYPU convention of Ontario and Quebec held at Niagara Falls on May 24th, the holiday weekend. As in the past, Simcoe had a good representation of members.

In May 1962, the youth group had a most interesting and instructive tour of the Jewish Synagogue in Hamilton. Those who attended found it to be quite an experience. The Christmas season of this year was highlighted by a service held in Norview.

1963 began with Christian Youth Week on January 27th which gave a fantastic start to a fantastic year. The average attendance was about 15 people with frequent visitors. On June 11th Dr. Gregory showed his pictures of Russia to an enthusiastic group of both young people and adults.

In 1965 the BYPU of First Baptist enjoyed a very brief but active season. Due to losing many of the young people through marriage and others to outside centres for education and employment, it was deemed advisable to bring an end to the present BY at the end of May 1965.



INSCRIPTION:

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

II Tim. 4:7

To the glory of God and in loving memory of John R. Gunton, born Sept. 24th, 1837, died April 15th, 1902. Erected by his sons and daughters.

INTERPRETATION:

The Christian preacher and missionary is captured in this stance of the Apostle Paul.

"Her children rise up and call her blessed." Prov. 31:28

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Mrs. John R. Gunton. Born Nov. 26th, 1841, died Nov. 23rd, 1918. Erected by her sons and daughters.

The virtuous woman whose price is far above blood-red rubies, and snow-white pearls.



Due to the lack of interest Young Peoples discontinued for four years but in 1969 after an evening service it was revived.

A small group of interested young people met with Rev. O.L. Davidson and decided to hold their first meeting on Tuesday night. It was at that meeting that the executive was elected to build a foundation for youth.

The first few weeks were very difficult but under the careful direction of the new president Mr. David Gunton the attendance rose from 5 to 25 in three months. With

interest as keen as it was the young people undertook the play "The Dusted Bible" which was successfully presented to the Norfolk Association at the Spring Rally in March.

Unfortunately the young people lost about 10 of their regular attendants to colleges and universities in the fall.

Since then the Young People have undertaken church services and have entertained at Norview on several occasions.

It is gratifying that in these most difficult times for young people we still have the largest young peoples in Norfolk Association.



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Until 1953, called "Ladies Aid", these women were organized to serve the church in any way possible and to raise money for church purposes, mostly the church Building Fund. Two afternoon meetings were held each month consisting of devotions, business and program. As the attendance grew from 35 in 1929, 3 groups were formed in 1937 known as the North, Central and South groups, each with their own slate of officers. These met in the members' homes once a month and the combined group met at the church on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Some presidents since 1929 were: Mrs. Siple; Mrs. C. Fleming; Mrs. J.C. Kayser; Mrs. C. Colver; Mrs. D.D. Gunton; Mrs. Frances Kuhns; Mrs. Charles Herron; Mrs. H. McClain; Mrs. T. Toombs; Mrs. W.W. Weber; Mrs. V. Matthews; Mrs. M. Cronkwright; Mrs. J. Matthews; Mrs. H. McClain; Mrs. F. Grigg; Mrs. V. Matthews.

Miss Edith Steinhoff was treasurer for a great number of years until 1939, when she was followed by Mrs. C. Colver; Mrs. J.C. Winchell; Mrs. G. Bauslaugh; Mrs. S. Bryan; Mrs. F. Ferguson; and Mrs. B. Wallace.

Mrs. J.C. Kayser was secretary for a few years and Mrs. M.L. House for 27 years until 1959. Since then we have had Mrs. M. Cronkwright; Mrs. V. Matthews and Mrs. L. Jackson.

For many years, until war-time food rationing, the Ladies' Aid and other church helpers served meals at the Norfolk County Fair. We serve meals also as the need arises in our church and cater for weddings of our own young people when asked to do so.

In 1943, the church mortgage was burned so other objectives were undertaken. Money was used to support a pastor and helper for the church in India organized by Ralph E. Smith. During the Second

World War, donations of time and money were made to the Red Cross and Christmas boxes for the soldiers. Flags were purchased for our church.

Since 1945, money has been donated to the Mission Circles. The two circles at first received \$35.00 each. Later when a 3rd circle and Mission Band was formed, \$100.00 was shared amongst the four. In 1956 each received \$35.00 and in 1966 it was increased to \$50.00 each.

The Group was happy to have a share in paying for the new organ; also buying baptismal gowns and in 1956 giving \$100. to the General Church fund to pay the deficit. \$750.00 was also given in 1965.

In 1962, the church kitchen was renovated at a cost of \$4,451.00; the ladies paying for this by 1965. Mrs. J. Matthews was a great help in this. New stack tables for the dining room were purchased in 1966 and 1969 costing over \$500.00.

In 1967 we undertook to redecorate and refurbish the church parlour which has proved of such value to all groups. This project cost us around \$1250.00. Also in that same year, we started to contribute to the Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast. We continue this donation each year. Most of our money is raised from rummage sales and we find our Tea, Bake Sale and Bazaar very worthwhile.

Because of so many activities in the church and community in later years, attendance dropped at the General W.A. meetings, so for several years 4 meetings only were held. The 3 groups still met each month in the members' homes. Since January, 1971, with the comfortable accommodation in the church parlour, we have disbanded the 3 groups and are now enjoying wonderful fellowship with all the ladies of the church there each month with devotions and good speakers. We visit over a cup of tea.

Feel free to join us. We would like to get to know our friends better.

DR. SARAH COOK

MISSION CIRCLE

1957



BACK ROW left to right: Mrs. F. Ferguson, Mrs. M. House, Mrs. C. Hood, Mrs. S. Bagdon, Mrs. C. Kayser, Mrs. W. Bowden, Mrs. F. Shearer.
FRONT ROW: left to right: Mrs. W. Kidner, Miss R. Harris, Mrs. C. Herron, Mrs. H. McClain, Mrs. W.J. Anthony, Mrs. C. Colver, Mrs. D. Gunton, Mrs. V. Harris.



B. Y. P. U. (1959)

Upon winning the David Ingram Trophy as the most proficient Union in the Convention of Ontario and Quebec

BACK ROW left to right: Ronald Dalby, Judy Crabb, Sharon Judd, Dorothy Post, Barbara Judd, Pat Haskett, Raymond White.

MIDDLE ROW left to right: Doreen Post, Lloyd Wilson, Jack Wallace, Ronald White, Barry Yager, Robert Wallace, Wayne Pineo, Lana Howling.

FRONT ROW left to right: Margaret Mills, Valerie Colver, Carolyn Grigg, Judy Casselton, Miss Agnes Lee, (Dir. of Ch. Ed.), Karen Walker, Janice White.

TILLICUM CLUB

The Tillicum Club was organized on March 11, 1914 to assist the Senior Ladies in raising money for a new church. The reason for organizing the Club was that so many young ladies of the church worked during the day and some young mothers could not attend the Ladies' Aid Meetings in the afternoon. The name Tillicum Club was chosen in 1915. It is an Indian word for friendship.

We decided to have a yearly membership fee of 25¢ and meet two evenings a month when a 10¢ tea should be given and fancy work and sewing should be done for our bazaar.

The first contribution was given in June 1914 when we gave 8 dozen knives to the dining hall of the church. Later over \$200. was given for a new roof on the parsonage.

When the new church was built the club gave \$900. for the electrical fixtures, and as well contributed liberally toward the current and building accounts of the church. In 1927, \$165. was raised at a St. Patrick's Tea with which office furniture for the new Norfolk General Hospital was bought.

The Club was privileged in having three highly esteemed honorary members. Mesdames Helene Palmerton, Mary Siple and Lucy Miller who will ever be remembered for their faithful and generous help. Miss Ethel Pettit held the office of President for nearly 25 years.

During the years since its formation the Tillicum Club has contributed to the work of First Baptist Church in many ways. In earlier years the members assisted in preparing and serving at the annual church suppers, in serving meals at the Norfolk County Fair, when the ladies rented the dining hall at the fairgrounds. The Club also bought material and made new collars for all the choir gowns, bought new hymn

books and Bibles and placed flowers in the church two months of the year.

After the church debt was paid off we have given to more diverse causes, such as "Save the Children Fund", and the Scott Mission, attendance prizes and testaments for the Sunday School, choir gowns and baptismal gowns. Each year we also give \$50 to the "Dr. Sarah Cook Mission Circle."

Our largest contribution was \$1225 to wards the cost of our present organ.

In 1960 we changed our meetings to once a month with a monthly fee of 25c, plus 20c flower fund. Our joining fee is still 25c per year, surely the only item which has not advanced in 58 years.

In March 1964 the club celebrated their 50th Anniversary when many former members were guests. At this time we were down to 16 members. We have lost several faithful members by death: Ora Doherty, Dorothy Whiting, Myrrh Mark, Mrs. Archie Culver, Gertrude Marshall, Mae Liley, Mattie Fleming and more recently Elizabeth Bagdon.

Since 1960 we have given \$800 to the kitchen fund, \$250 to furnace fund, \$170 to have the church doors refinished, \$150 to church windows, \$250 to Parsonage fund, \$200 to Radio Broadcasts, \$125 for hymnaries and Bibles, besides several other donations.

Presidents over the years have been Miss Ethel Pettit, Mrs. Edward Pettit, Gertrude Marshall, Mrs. Harry Culver, Mrs. S.C. Bagdon, Mrs. Owen Richards and at present Mrs. C.W. Ward.

Secretary-Treasurers have been Miss Lulu Leach, Mrs. Harry Aitken, Mrs. Leo Lafortune, Mrs. Basil Gilmore, Mrs. Doris Shortt, Mrs. James K. Ward and Mrs. Rupert Jackson.

At present we have only 10 members and would welcome any who would care to join us.



"CALLING THE FISHERMAN"

INSCRIPTION:

To the glory of God and in gracious memory of Rev. John T. Smith and Mrs. Smith. Erected in accordance with the express desire of their devoted daughter Clara H. Lea, ere she entered into rest.

INTERPRETATION:

This, a double panelled window, depicts the time when Jesus called Andrew and Peter, James and John to be his disciples. "Come with me," he said, "and I will make you to become fishers of men."

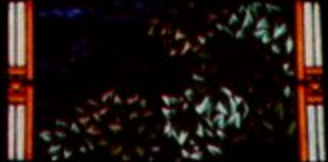
"He giveth his beloved rest." Psalm 127:2
Clara H. Smith beloved wife of Arthur C. Lea.



WILLIAM OF CANTUARY

For the glory of God and the precious
memory of the late Sir John de St. John
founder of this chapel with the prayers of their
brethren may the soul of the late Sir John de St. John
rest in peace

1891



FISHERMEN

He giveth his beloved sleep. Psalm 127
CLARA F. SMITH
beloved wife of Arthur C. Lea.

1891

HOME DEPARTMENT

The Home Department was organized in 1916, by the Sunday School Superintendent, the late Mr. Henry Crabb. It consisted of a President, Secretary-treasurer and three or four visitors. There were only nine members the first year.

The members were visited quarterly and a book was left for them of the Sunday School lessons, with daily Bible readings. They could contribute by the envelope, to the work of the Sunday School. This was paid into the Sunday School by cheque at the end of each year.

Officers in 1961 were: President, Mrs.

Earle Doherty; Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. M.L. House; Visitors, Mrs. W.J. Anthony, Mrs. Russell Osborne, Mrs. Sidney Casselton, Mrs. Rupert Jackson.

In 1971, the Board of Christian Education requested the Deaconesses to take over the Home Department.

The Deaconesses call on members and adherents regularly and are delivering the materials quarterly.

It is our earnest hope that some member will volunteer to take over the Home Department once again as a memorial to its founder, the late Mr. Henry Crabb, Sunday School Superintendent.



MISSION BAND

The Mission Band was first organized in May 1892, in connection with the Young Ladies' Mission Circle. Its first president was Miss Gertie Rattenbury. Meetings were held the second Sunday of each month after Sunday School.

For a time it was held in conjunction with the Junior Union being held on Monday evenings.

Around 1960 it was named the Dr. Walter Johnson Mission Band and was held every Sunday Morning. The Dr. Sarah Cook Mission Circle appointed the leader and helped financially.

A few years ago, the Board of Christian Education took over, and appointed a leader, and the Women's Association has helped financially. Mission Band is held the last Sunday of each month, during the church service for children between 5 and 8 years old.



COUPLES' CLUB

In 1957, under the direction of Rev. Dana H. Lamb, a Couples' Club was formed in First Baptist Church. They met monthly under the first presidents Jack and Shirley Grummet. Each meeting consisted of a devotional period followed by a study session or other activity.

Fifteen years later, the couples of the church continue to meet for fellowship together and to attempt to make some positive contribution to the church and com-

munity around them. Supporting foster children in India and now in South America, and bringing some of our older folk to church each Sunday, are some of the benevolent activities. Annual barbecues, strawberry socials, studying world religions, tours to Stratford or to a synagogue, bowling, shuffleboard and fun have been an intricate part of the group's social life.

With God's help, we hope that in the years ahead the couples will continue to be an asset in the work of First Baptist Church, Simcoe.





CENTRAL W.A. (Early 1960's)

BACK ROW left to right: Mrs. J. Crabb, Mrs. R. Payne, Mrs. E. Richards, Mrs. H. Lindsay, Mrs. M. Reynolds, Mrs. D. Gunton, Mrs. O. Davidson.
 FRONT ROW (seated) left to right: Mrs. H. Judd, Mrs. M. House, Mrs. E. Depew, Mrs. J. Matthews, Mrs. B. Wallace, Mrs. C. Rusling, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Wm. Bowden.



TILlicum CLUB (1957)

BACK ROW (standing) left to right: Mrs. S. Bagdon, Mrs. S. Whiting, Mrs. C. Fleming, Mrs. G. Andrews, Miss Marshall, Mrs. C. Herron, Mrs. A. Culver, Mrs. C. Ward.
 FRONT ROW left to right: Mrs. M. Fleming, Mrs. J. Ward, Mrs. S. Miller.

THE MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

A group picture taken by Harold Stewart about 1947-48 shows a typical group at one of the meetings of the Men's Brotherhood.

The men in the picture are listed as follows:

Back Row Right to Left: Marvyn Veale, Joe Lindsay, Morrison Spencer, R.B. Snively, Sam Baskerville, Doug Coombs, Harry Judd, George Campbell, W. Mann, Jack Coombs.

Middle Row Right to Left: Ed Windus, Ira Ronson, Orton Haviland, Alf Miller, Russ Gunton, Harvey McPherson, William Bowden, Herman Dreher, F. Fidler, Gerald Bauslaugh, Lloyd Yager, Carson Kayser. Front Row Right to Left: L. Waddle, Don Snively, A. Speaker, Rev. G. Crofoot, Gord Wallace, Frank Shearer, William Hilliker, Dave Gunton and George Butcher.

The Brotherhood was started as a group shortly after World War II by Reverend Crofoot and provided an excellent get-together four or five times a year for several years. Later on, it slowed up for lack of objectives and since then the main annual activities are the Laymen's Sunday Service and Breakfast.

Although the picture includes many of

the regular members, many more came for important occasions. Some of the well remembered evenings were highlighted by the "Bean" suppers prepared by chefs Harold Lindsay, Gordon Wallace and their helpers.

George Butcher (the baker) at times became enthusiastic and rendered many entertaining songs for the amusement of the men.

Will Bowden, the Public School Inspector, helped with his thoughtful discourses and discussions.

The real spark plug was the minister Rev. Crofoot who was earnestly interested in the Brotherhood work.

A number of our men are active in the Norfolk Association Baptist Men. At present Mr. William Cookson is chairman of this organization while Mr. Raymond Whitehead is secretary. Mr. Harry Judd is a director on the Baptist Men's Committee of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec.

One of the well remembered early group was Henry R. Crabb. With his rather bluff sense of humour surrounding his deep inner conviction that clergymen were precious in the sight of God — he was a man who always spoke for the finer things in life that would "lift men up."



INSCRIPTION:

"The memory of the just is blessed."

To the glory of God, and in loving memory of Lyman Wells 1809 - 1884, for many years a deacon of this church: his wife Ruth Wells, and daughters Sarah, Matilda, Elizabeth and Florence. Erected by his daughter Margaret.

INTERPRETATION:

Mary and Joseph present the Infant Jesus in the Temple. Simeon, the aged saint looks upon the infant and is satisfied that he has seen the Messiah of God. After that he was ready to depart this life in peace. And Anna, a very old prophetess met them and declared that in the child was seen the long awaited Deliverer of the people.





MEN'S BROTHERHOOD (about 1946)

Names are in the text of this booklet



CONGREGATIONAL PHOTO — ON THE OCCASION OF
"AN AT HOME" IN 1952 — REV. DANA H. LAMB, PASTOR



COUPLE'S CLUB - 1960

BACK ROW left to right: Gary Fleming, Elmer Fleming, Robert Good, Joan Davidson, Eric Bryan, Rev. Davidson, Ron Weber, Stuart Dawson, Marie Dawson, Florcnce Payne, Bernice Collier, Barbara Dargie, Jean Good, Marion Fleming, Barbara Fleming.
THIRD ROW left to right: Paul Davidson, Loren Fleming, Marie Davidson, Doreen Fleming, Sheila Weber, (Sandy), Muriel Ilton, (Scott Dawson), Marion Lindsay, Nancy Bryan.
SECOND ROW left to right: Brenda Ilton, Ruth Fleming, Richard Weber, Stephen Fleming, Jack Payne, Paul Good, Stephen Bryan, David Lindsay, Fran McConnell, (Stephen).
FRONT ROW left to right: Jane Bryan, Terry Ilton, Jeff Bryan, Cheryl Ilton, Mary Beth Good, Janet Lindsay, Stephen Good, Brian Dargie, Bradley Collier, Ken Payne, Cathy Payne.



INSCRIPTION:

"I am the Good Shepherd."
In Memory of Nathan Pegg. 1811 - 1897.

INTERPRETATION:

Jesus is seen here as a Good Shepherd caring for his sheep in the green pastures of God.

"Behold I stand at the door and knock"
To the glory of God and in loving memory of Ella Adams Challen, died 27th of Jan. 1919 aged 44 years, erected by her mother Kate E. Adams Dell.

The Light of the world is the theme here. Note that the door must be opened from within. Jesus brings light to our whole lives.



I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

In memory of Nathan Pegg, 1911-1992



DEBENT I SAY TO ALL THE GOOD SHEPHERD
for the glory of God and in loving memory of
ella Adams (battersea Dec 27 1847 - 1901 aged 44
years. erected by her mother Kate Adams 1911

SIMCOE BAPTIST CHURCH

A story of Growth and Progress — Brief Sketch of new building, and Programme of opening services planned for Sundays, May 21st, 28th, and June 4th. ♦

The town of Simcoe is the county town of Norfolk. It is well situated in a beautiful and fertile section of the county and has a population of some 4,000 people. Its homes, public buildings and business centre will compare more than favorably with most Ontario towns of equal size. It is the headquarters of the Dominion Cannery Co., who have a million dollar factory plant located here. The four leading Protestant bodies are each well represented, all having active organizations and well-equipped churches. Among these the Baptists hold a leading place.

The story of Baptist work in Simcoe dates well back in the early history of the town. The church was organized in 1836. Many difficult and changing experiences marked the beginnings, and through the course of many years blessing and vicissitude seem to have been strangely intermingled. Yet the church has never lost her vision, and the record of the past is for the most part a record of progress.

Perhaps the most serious crisis through which she was ever called to pass came in the spring of 1913, when two succeeding fires following closely upon each other, the comfortable and well-furnished house of worship and comparatively new Sunday School building were completely destroyed. Circumstances arising out of this disheartening disaster led to considerable estrangement in the congregation. So much so that for a time it seemed as though the Baptist cause in Simcoe was about to suffer an almost total eclipse. When things were seemingly at their lowest ebb, the present pastor, Rev. H.C. Newcombe, B.A., then pastor at St. George, Ontario, supplied the pulpit for a Sunday during his summer vacation, with no

thought whatever of making a change of pastorate. Some weeks later, however, the Simcoe Church entered into negotiations with him, which eventuated in a unanimous call on the part of the members who still held together, and felt that the work must be sustained. After some hesitancy the call was accepted and Mr. Newcombe entered upon the work Nov. 1st, 1913. Services at the time were being held in a hall over a garage on the main business thoroughfare of the town. On the first Sunday morning a congregation of sixty people assembled to greet the new pastor and his family. But immediately the church began to respond. Congregations soon filled the hall. A new feeling of optimism began to grow. The deacons and Board of Managers were men of faith and vision. At the very beginning of his work they pledged the pastor their loyal support, and right loyally have they kept that pledge through the succeeding years. Work was at once pushed upon the new Sunday School hall, for which careful plans had been secured. In April, 1914, this fine modern edifice, having a seating capacity of over 500, was completed at a cost including furnishings, of about \$15,000 and dedicated to the service of God. With this splendid start toward a new church home, a new era began to dawn. Old difficulties dissolved, congregations enlarged, the membership increased, financial obligations were met, and then — the war. Dark days soon followed that fateful August of 1914, for from the very first our men began to enlist. But never for a moment did the church lose heart. She forgot herself in the patriotic enthusiasm with which she entered into all the service and sacrifice called for in preparing the men to go overseas, and in caring for their physical comfort while there.

With the raising of the 133rd Norfolk O.S. Battalion the pastor, without making personal application, as was customary, was requested by military headquarters to

♦ (This material is taken from the April 13th, 1922 edition of The Canadian Baptist - written by the late Reverend Harley C. Newcombe.)

INSCRIPTION:

"This memorial is erected in grateful memory of Miss Elizabeth Cherille Wells, a member of this church, and for over 34 years a teacher in the Public School of Simcoe. It is the gift of former pupils, by all of whom she was held in sincerest regard as teacher and friend."

INTERPRETATION:

Here we see Jesus as the Friend of little children. He opens their minds to truth, indicated by the open book in the left panel, and knowledge indicated by the lamp in the right panel.



serve with the battalion as its chaplain. He enlisted in May, 1916, and proceeded to Camp Borden and thence overseas. The church, refusing to accept his resignation, granted him a year's leave of absence with free home for his family during that period.

The Rev. G. Pincock, a missionary on furlough from Nigeria, Africa, was secured as acting-pastor. Mr. Newcombe returned in 1917 and immediately reassumed the pastorate. The depression being caused by the war was being felt most keenly. What the outcome would be no one could then foretell. But the people again rallied around the pastor and found comfort and strength in his ministry. The work was reorganized, and strengthened at every point. With the signing of the armistice the church was soon ready for a splendid forward movement. At once the completion of their new house of worship laid hold upon the congregation as their first great objective. Every organization within the church came into line with this supreme purpose. Plans were secured and approved. A canvas was made and the sum of \$22,000 secured in cash and pledges. Of this amount the Sunday School, under the wise leadership of the superintendent, Mr. H.R. Crabb, pledged \$5,000 to be paid in five annual instalments of \$1,000 each. This is only the third year, but the school is working hard to complete the final payment on their Rally Day Sunday next fall.

At the time the canvas was made the price of the building materials was at the peak, and it was decided to delay building operations for the time being. In the early months of last year the spirit of revival swept the church. Conversions became frequent, week-night services grew in attendance, congregations on the Lord's Day largely increased, remarkable demonstrations of the Spirit's presence and power were witnessed in the Sunday School. And then came the evangelists, Mr. W.C.

Senior for one week and Rev. J.C. Macaulay for the four succeeding weeks, in which the fountains of the deep were broken up; weeks of blessed harvest and ingathering.

Then followed a second financial campaign, which added another \$7,000 to the amount already subscribed. With the opening of spring, building operations began. A large basement was excavated and the foundation walls of cement were built. The corner stone was laid in August with fitting ceremony, and the work thus begun has proceeded unceasingly ever since. It is to-day rapidly nearing completion.

The new building is a fine specimen of modern church architecture. It has a full-sized basement, with 12-foot ceiling. It is built of Milton compressed brick, with Corinthian stone trimmings. The floor and roof supports are of steel construction. The roof is of slate with copper metal valleys and eavetroughing. The auditorium is a delight to the eye, though somewhat unique in design and finish. The windows are of art glass throughout. Of these, five beautifully figured memorial windows. The electric lighting fixtures are most tastefully designed and are the gift of the "Tillicum" Young Ladies' Club of the church. The organ is a splendid two manual instrument, manufactured and installed by the Franklin Legge Organ Co. of Toronto, and is the gift of the Ladies' Aid Society. The seating and pulpit furniture are the product of the Globe Manufacturing Co. of Waterloo, Ontario. The auditorium will have a seating capacity of 700, including gallery. The Sunday School Hall and main basement provide ample accommodation for a Sunday School of 600. In addition to these the finely equipped dining room, lecture room, gymnasium, shower baths and other appointments will place this building in the front rank for all manner of modern church work.

The opening and dedication services



The stained glass windows were created and installed by LUXFER STUDIOS, Toronto, Ontario.

INSCRIPTION:

"Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10
In loving memory of Wallace M. Cook, 14th Batt'n C.E.F. Born in Simcoe, March 7th, 1896, died at Vimy Ridge, April 13th, 1917. Dedicated by loving friends.

INTERPRETATION:

A young knight has crossed the river of Death, one foot is still in the water. He surrenders his sword and is about to receive the crown of life from the King of kings.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 HENRY SIBBIE BORN 7
 DECEASED 1911



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 WILLIAM COOK BORN 1811
 DECEASED 1881

have been set for Sundays, May 21st, 28th and June 4th. On the opening Sunday the pastor by request of the Board of Deacons, on behalf of the church, will be the preacher. May 28th will be observed as Memorial Sunday, on which date the beautiful soldiers' memorial window and honor roll will be unveiled. This splendid memorial gift to the church, is made by Mr. and Mrs. James Peachey, of Simcoe. The Rev. (Capt.) J.L. Gilmour, M.A., D.D., will be the special preacher for the day. June 4th will be dedication Sunday. Chancellor A.L. McCrimmon, M.A., LL.D., of McMaster University will preach the dedicatory sermons. This is the second occasion the pastor has had the great privilege of having the Chancellor with him on a dedicatory occasion, the former being the dedication of the new church in St. George. The intervening weeks between opening and dedication will be filled with a somewhat elaborate program which space forbids announcing at this time.

The total cost of the new building when fully completed, exclusive of the Sunday School Hall, will be about \$54,000. Of this amount about \$15,000 remains to be raised in cash and subscriptions, to cover the total cost of the building. This it is

hoped may be secured by dedication Sunday. Our campaign is now on for that purpose. Should this meet the eye of any former members or sympathetic friends of the Simcoe Church who feel that they would like to have a share in successfully completing this great undertaking, their contributions will be gratefully received. Forward the same to Mr. Ira Miller, secretary of the Building Fund, Simcoe, Ontario, or to the pastor, Rev. H.C. Newcombe.

The above \$15,000 represents the total unprovided for indebtedness on a church property which, including parsonage, sheds, etc., could not be replaced to-day for \$75,000. The removal of this indebtedness by dedication Sunday will place the Baptists of Simcoe in a most advantageous position from every standpoint. With a beautiful and well equipped house of worship, an active and well organized membership of over 400, and a fine field of opportunity for aggressive Christian Service the future is full of promise. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," and we press forward, believing that "He who hath begun a good work in us will complete it unto the end." To Him be all the praise. -- H.C.N.



"The Baptistry Scene"

INSCRIPTION:

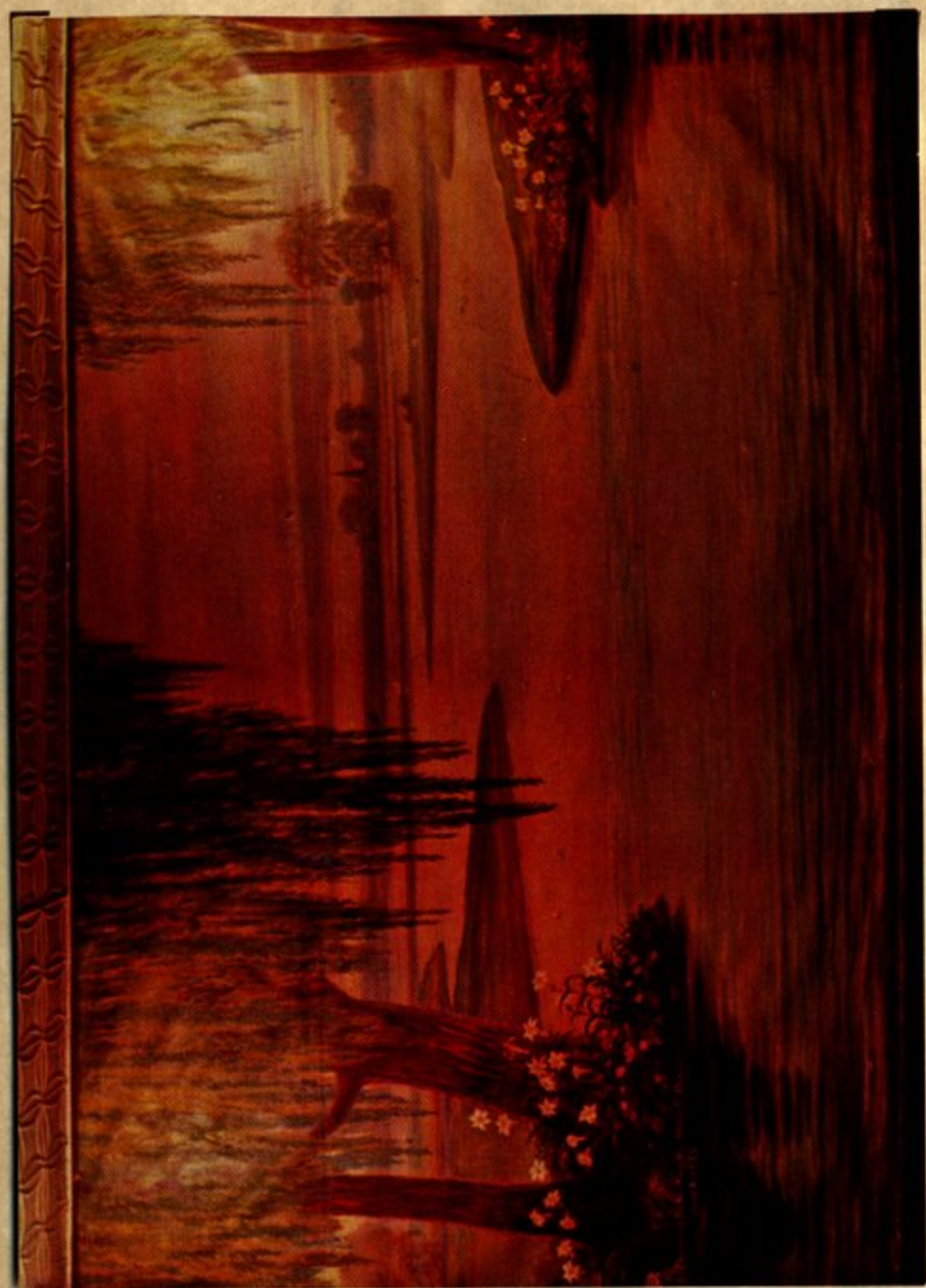
Presented by Mr. & Mrs. Manus C. Beaupre. June 4, 1922.

Artist - W. Edgar Cantelon.

(Note that this painting was dedicated along with the church sanctuary on June 4, 1922)

INTERPRETATION:

We see a quiet stream reminiscent of the River Jordan, where Jesus was baptized. Note the further symbolism of the church steeple in the background, and the white Easter Lilies reminding us of the new life in Christ.





OLD CHURCH — BUILT 1869 - BURNED 1913



Foundation Dollar Donated Feb. 2nd 1919

GREETINGS

From the Simcoe Baptist Church of to-day, to our Brothers of the future, to whom these presents shall come.

Simcoe, Ontario
August 31st, 1921.

Dear Brethren in Christ:-

"Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ." We of to-day greet you. In laying the Corner Stone of this House of Worship we do so with profound consciousness of our Mission as a Baptist Church of Jesus Christ. We are united in Christian fellowship and service. We hold the Scriptures to be God's own revelation of Himself to man. As such they are divinely inspired, infallibly true, and our final authority in all matters of Faith and Practice. We look upon the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ as expressed in Matt. 28; 18-20, as the reason for our being, our call to His Service, and the marching orders of the Christian Church.

With zeal and unfaltering courage we would "Keep this commandment without spot; unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ."

May those to whom it is given to receive these Greetings, hold fast and firm those great foundation principles upon which this Church was founded eighty-five years ago, and which she cherishes as a great and blessed heritage to-day.

"The Lord bless thee and keep thee; The Lord make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee; The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace." Num. 6; 24-26.

On behalf of the Church,
Harley Coleman Newcombe,
Pastor.



THE LAYING OF THE PRESENT CHURCH CORNERSTONE AUGUST 31ST., 1921



SIMCOE BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR, 1924

BACK ROW left to right: H. Culver, R. Culver, G. Frogley, H. Lindsay, A. Hitchcock, I. Miller, G. Pursel, W. Jones, Mrs. F. McCarthy, Miss A. Gunton, Miss G. Anderson.

THIRD ROW left to right: Mrs. H. Culver, Miss F. Mark, Miss R. Chrysler, Miss H. Harrington, Miss D. Walton, Miss A. Wark, Mrs. Newcombe, Mrs. Layland, Miss M. Hall, Miss M. Watson, Mrs. G. Pursel.

SECOND ROW left to right: Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Halmshaw, Miss G. Price, Miss L. Green, Miss Pettit, Mrs. A. Hitchcock, Mrs. Mark, Miss A. Miller, Miss E. Neilson, Miss B. Baldwin.

FRONT ROW left to right: A. Paulin, R. Sylvester, C. Green, Miss M. Mandeville, (Organist), R. Williams (Conductor), James Peachey (Hon. President).

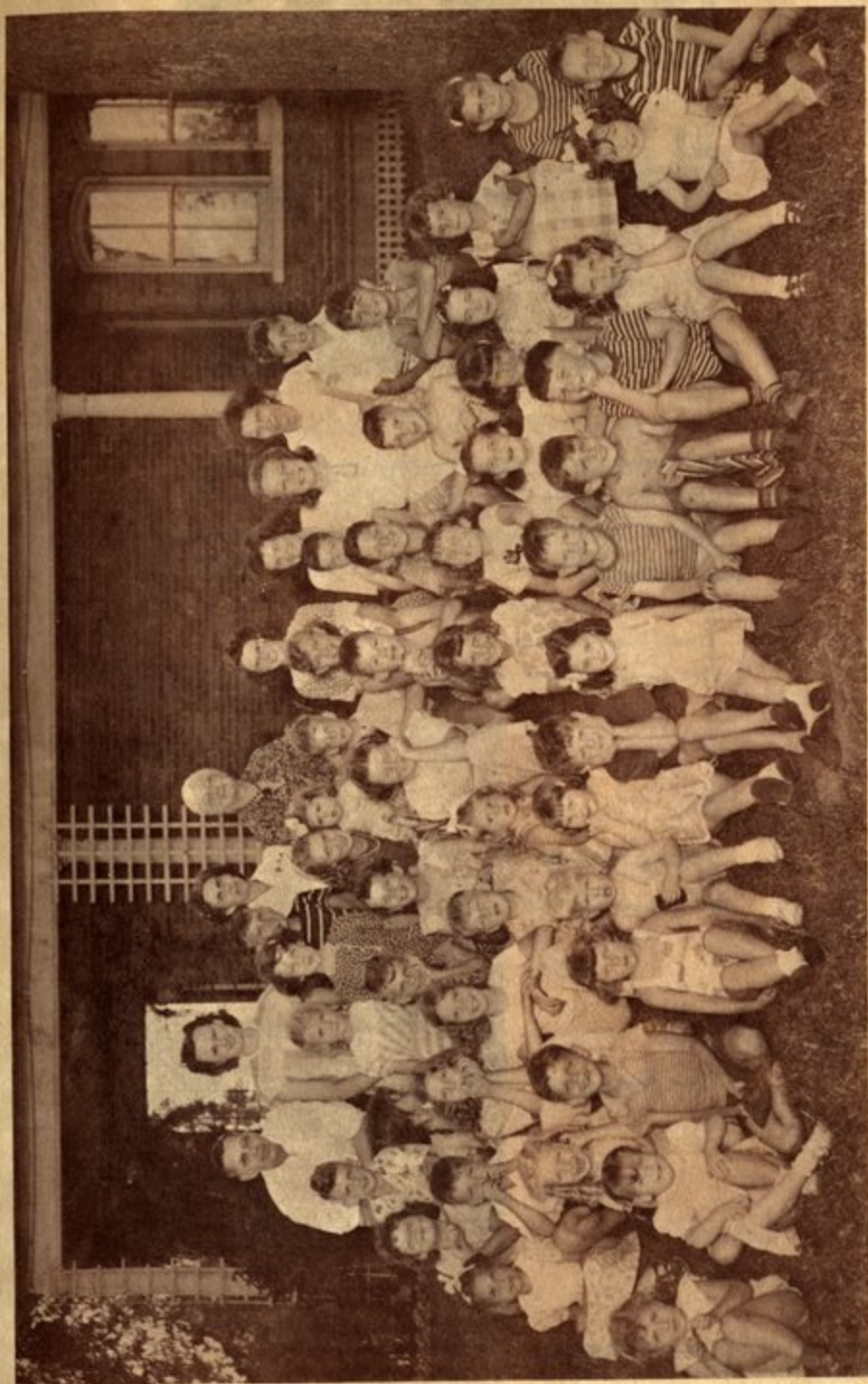


CHURCH CHOIR — ABOUT 1947

BACK ROW left to right: Henry Whitehead, Ron White, Stan Bryan, Howard Butcher, Rev. Gordon Crofoot, Eric Bryan, Paul Hoover, Don Gunton.

SECOND ROW left to right: Ina Jewell, Irene Culver, Mary Massecar, Velma Bowden, Lucille Summerhayes, Helen Matthews, Mabel Bryan, Norma Butler, Ruth Windus.

FRONT ROW left to right: Muriel Montrose, Betty Krell, Mrs. Gordon Crofoot, Elin Schuyler, Shirley Casselton, Joan Crofoot, Gloria Jones, Nancy Casselton.

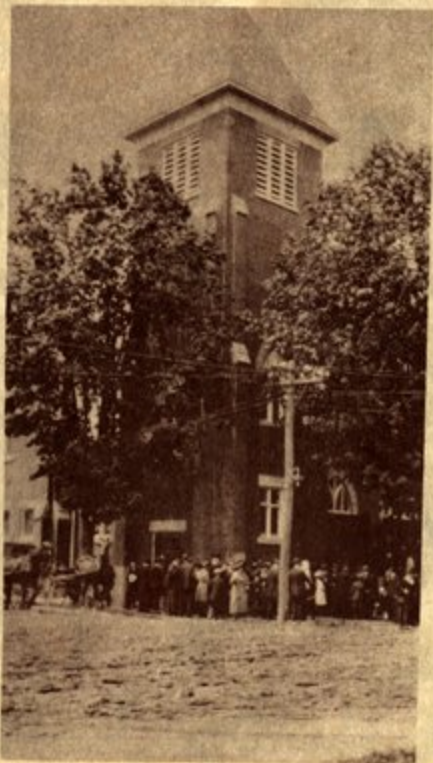


MISSION BAND PICNIC - HELD AT THE WALLACE HOME,
ABOUT 1948



C. G. I. T. 1958

BACK ROW left to right: Dorothy Bezzo, Diane Eatwell, Jane Austin, Carol Lee, Judy Bennett, Sue Collver, Shirley Jones, Shirley Spencer.
FRONT ROW left to right: Elizabeth Suprun, Bonnie Stewart, Pat Eatwell, Sheila Woods, Jeannette Morden, Joan Casselton.



**PHOTO BELIEVED TAKEN DURING
 DEDICATION SERVICE IN 1922**