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St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Tillsonburg, Ontario

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The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Dedication

—OF—

St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church
Tillsonburg


Friday, April 17th, 1931

AT 8:00 O'CLOCK



Minister — Rev. Robert Bruce, B.A., B.D.

OXFORD COUNTY LIBRARY



Opening Services

SUNDAY, APRIL 19th, 1931

11 a.m.—Dr. F. Baird, D.D., Moderator of General Assembly.

3 p.m.—Dr. F. Baird, D.D., assisted by Rev. J.A. Brown, B.A. and Dr. Jas. MacKay, D.D.

Worship of Praise by Knox Presbyterian Choir, St. Thomas.

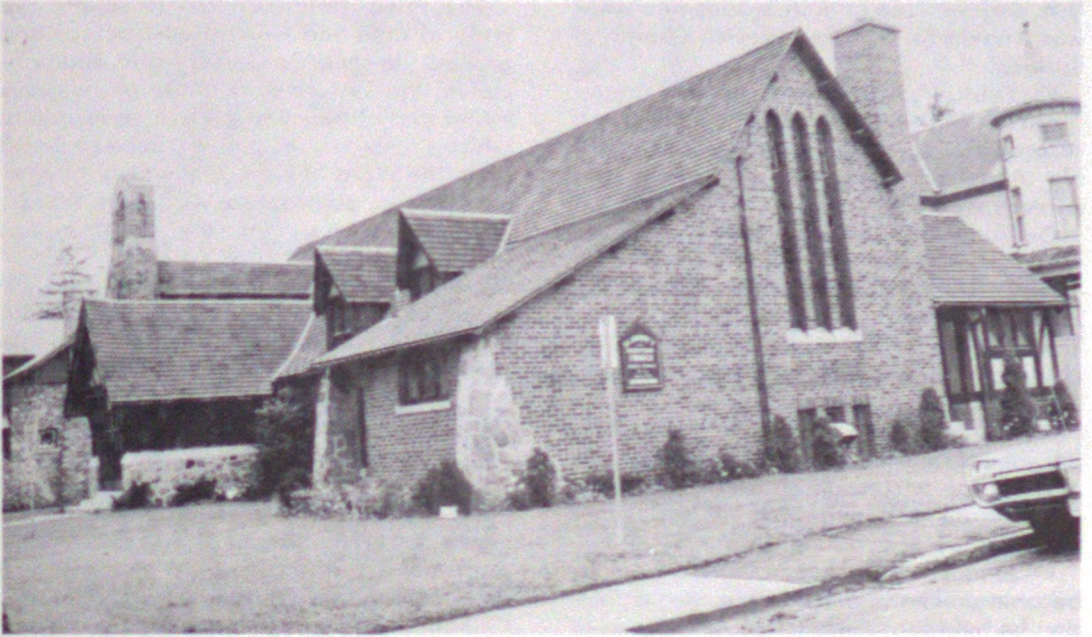
7 p.m.—Rev. W.F. McConnell, B.A., Moderator of Presbytery.

Special music by the Choir
at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

You are cordially invited to worship with us.

Chairman Building Committee, W.C. Brown, B.A.
Chairman of Finance Committee, A.G. Mackenzie.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



The history of the Presbyterian Church in Tillsonburg is closely connected with the history of the town. It was in the year 1825 that the late Mr. George Tillson arrived in the hamlet known as Dereham Forge from Boston. He was the father of the late Mr. E.D. Tillson, the founder of the Town of Tillsonburg. In 1836 the first log meeting house was erected in Dereham Forge. The official history of the Church dates back to the year 1849 when the congregation was organized in the hotel then kept by Mr. Archibald McLaren on South Broadway, and Rev. Dr. Drummond of Brantford presided over the organization. The names of those present on that occasion were Archibald McLaren, Samuel Livingston Sr., Samuel Livingston Jr., John King, John McIntyre, David Kelso, Nicholas Cuthbertson, John Anderson, Alex Kelso and Thomas Hardy.

The result was that a congregation was organized under the U.P. Synod. Meetings were held for a time in the old school house where the M.D. Crooker residence once stood on west side of South Broadway, now the location of the Loblaw's store. They were later held in the old Temperance Hall on the corner of Baldwin and Bidwell Streets. That spot is sacred as the place where the first Sacrament was administered in Tillsonburg, and James King

was ordained the first Elder in the town.

Later in 1849, Harvey Tillson presented a site on Harvey Street for the erection of a Presbyterian Church. In 1853, the foundation of a new Church was laid and on May 4, 1855, the Church was finally dedicated to the service of God. On the following evening, a tea meeting was held which was claimed by many of the old residents to have been the largest gathering of its kind ever held in the town. The attendance must have been large for official Church records show that the proceeds were \$284.00.

Rev. Robert Rodgers a young man fresh from college was the first pastor. At that time the district covered by the charge was a very large one including Tillsonburg, Norwich and Culloden. In 1856, Tillsonburg was made a separate charge by the Presbytery of Paris. This seems to have been an era of prosperity. The salary of Mr. Rodgers was raised to \$600.00 and the total income of the year was £142, 8s. and 6d. Mr. Rodgers came to Tillsonburg in the year 1853. The first seventeen months of his pastorate the congregation worshipped in the Temperance Hall. It was during Mr. Rodgers' time that the first Church was erected and dedicated, the latter event taking place in 1856. Mr. Rodgers' district extended to Culloden and Norwich, but in

the course of time the latter station was given up, the duties having been too arduous. Mr. Rodgers resigned his charge of Tillsonburg and Culloden Churches in 1850.

The year 1860 signaled the union of the U.P. and the Free Church Synods into what was known as the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

On February 4th, 1858, there was solemnized the first marriage of which there is a record. The contracting parties being Noble Avey and Mary Anne Brown. The witness was J.H. Crooker.

On June 3rd, 1868, the first steps were taken to secure a suitable site to erect a Manse. It was during this period that the names of W.S. Law, Malcolm Smith, Thomas Lughton, Peter Campbell, J. Robinson and James Rodgers first appeared on the Managers Board. For some time the Church of England and Baptist congregations held their services in the church and so for a considerable period, there were three denominations in the same building.

In June 1879, Nicholas Cuthbertson Jr. became precentor and choir leader; a position he held for nearly thirty years. In 1874 an innovation of more than passing moment was introduced in the service of praise, and Miss Lizzie Campbell was appointed the first organist, a position which she filled for nearly 29 years. Miss Campbell was an Aunt of Mr. George Tillson. On May 2nd, 1882 Rev. Malcolm McGregor was ordained and his pastorate was one of the longest in the annals of the congregation. A matter of eighteen years, when he resigned to accept the Editorship of "The Presbyterian", the official Church paper. In 1874 an organ was used for the first time. The installation of the first pipe organ took place in 1890 and in 1893 the coal oil lamps passed away in favour of electricity.

In 1885, a larger Church was needed and Mr. E.D. Tillson was awarded the contract. The cornerstone was laid in June of the same year and a faithful member, John Scott, donated \$3,000.00 to the congregation. His old neighbourhood in Scotland was called Avondale and the new Church was named Avondale Presbyterian Church. John Scott died on May 3rd, 1888 and he bequeathed a legacy of \$7,000.00 to the congregation.

WINDS OF CHANGE

Prior to the year 1925, conversations were being carried on between leaders of the Methodist, Congregational and some Presbyterian Churches to form a new

denomination called the United Church of Canada. Naturally, many faithful Presbyterian people opposed such a change.

"What is the Presbyterian Church"

The Presbyterian Church is simply the body of men and women who accept and profess the great Scriptural truths and principles, the system of doctrine or religious belief and of policy or Church government which Presbyterians believe to be founded upon the Word of God, and which they accept as "in accordance with that Word". This quotation from the Presbyterian Record of June 3, 1925.

Members across Canada voted to indicate their wish to change or remain Presbyterian. A small majority of Avondale Church members voted to change their denomination. The hour of midnight, June 9, 1925 when the Act of Parliament had decreed that "in so far and in so far only as it is competent to the Parliament to do so "the Presbyterian Church in Canada should cease to exist", found that Church very much alive, with no thought of ceasing to exist. It found the General assembly of that Church in session in a noble edifice - Knox Church Toronto - packed to the doors by an earnest people from all over Canada. Rev. Dr. D.G. McQueen of Edmonton, an ex Moderator, was asked to take the chair. Such was the simple but momentous "parting of the ways".

The minority group of continuing Presbyterians in Tillsonburg were losing no time in making plans to carry on the work of the Church in a serious and fervent manner. They were very philosophical about the rebuilding that faced them.

On April 21st, 1925, the non concurring members of Avondale Church held a meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vinton Hower, Harvey Street. The gathering was largely attended and opened with the devotions led by Elder Andrew Scott and Mrs. W.H. McKay. With Mr. Scott in the chair, there was a brief resume of conditions arising from the vote. Harry Malcolm gave the following version of the first meeting of continuing members.

"On April 22, 1925, we five men (that is, Wm. Barkey, Jesse Minshall, Thomas Agur, William Van Dusen, Harry Malcolm) met in the Barkey Band Room for our first meeting. The question was, "Where shall we meet?" Mr. Barkey said, "We are not stuck. I will clean up the rink. Mr. Minshall said, "It may sound funny, but what about the Theatre?" I said, "That sounds good as Mr. and Mrs. Preston hold to Presbyterian. Let's go down to the Theatre." Mr. Preston



The Presbyterian Church and Sunday School (Forester's Hall) 1925-1931, corner of Broadway and Brock, Tillsonburg, Ontario, (upstairs) now location of Tri-County Credit Union.



came out, put both hands in the air, and before we had a chance to say anything, he said, "It's all yours and won't cost you a cent. Congratulations for making the start." "Thanks," was our reply, "but you will have expense after the Saturday night show cleaning up, and lights will be burning as the windows are closed, and we cannot expect you to do it without charge." His

answer was, "If you look at it in that way, would eight dollars a Sunday be too much?" Our answer was "no" and some of us will be here to help get ready for the service." And we never missed a Saturday night to help him. The scenery on the stage had to be moved, the stage cleaned for the choir and the minister."

Further business was carried out as follows.

Resolved that the non-concurring members and adherents of Avondale Church in meeting assembled do hereby declare our intention to be and remain members and adherents of the continuing Presbyterian Church under whatsoever name it may be known in Canada after June 10th, 1925.

On motion of W.E. Barkey, seconded by Mrs. E.V. Tillson, the following are hereby appointed as representatives of the non-concurring members of the said Avondale Presbyterian Church, on the Presbyterian Advisory Council for the Presbytery of Paris, Mrs. J. Mitchell and Mr. Andrew Scott.

On June 8th and 9th, some 1,500 delegates met in open conference in Cooke's Presbyterian Church in Toronto and Messrs. Victor Tillson and Roy Darrow were appointed delegates to represent the local congregation. A provisional managing board was appointed as follows, to arrange for supply and Church services: Harry Malcolm, Chairman; W.E. Barkey; J. Minshal; Thomas Agur and Wm. Van Dusen.

A subscription list was also opened at the meeting and a very substantial sum pledged to carry on the work and to keep the blue banner of Presbyterianism flying in the Town of Tillsonburg where for years the only Church in town was that of the Presbyterian Congregation.

On the second Sunday following the meeting described above, the congregation worshipped in the White Star Theatre for the first time on May 3rd, 1925 with the kind co-operation of Robert Preston the owner. This arrangement continued until the congregation rented the upstairs Foresters Hall, on the corner of Brock Street and Broadway to accommodate both Church and Sunday School. The rent was \$15.00 per month.

By all reports the "Church Rooms" served very well for worship services and also banquets. The Tillsonburg News reported one event as follows: The 79th Annual Meeting of the Presbyterian Congregation was held in the Forester's Hall last evening and like Scots of old the careful deliberations extended over a period of several hours; the meeting was preceded by a sumptuous old time supper at 6:30 and it was necessary to set the tables the second time to serve the large crowd in attendance.

In August 1927 good fortune came to the congregation in the persons of the Rev.

Robert Bruce and Mrs. Bruce, who were willing to share the hardships of people with no Church. Mr. Bruce served temporarily for a period but was later persuaded to accept a permanent call.

A lookout committee was formed to search for sites that would be suitable for a Church. With Mrs. W.C. Brown as convener, the committee looked at seven properties with a range in price from \$1,400.00 to \$6,500.00. After two further meetings, the lot on the north west corner of Brock and Bidwell Street was the unanimous choice. A small house on the property was sold and moved. All the members were happy that an important step had been taken toward getting a new Church building.

Mrs. E.V. Tillson knew of a Church at Puce, a village near Windsor, Ontario, which had been built from a design similar to a Church in Scotland. A delegation from Tillsonburg visited the Puce Church and were pleased with the design. The Architect, Mr. B.J. Cameron of Windsor, was consulted and agreed to submit plans and specifications with slight changes similar to the Puce Church.

Monday, April 21st, 1930 at 3 p.m. at the corner of Bidwell and Brock Streets for the purpose of "separating from all unhallowed, ordinary and common use" our new Church property was dedicated and the turning of the first sod took place. The two oldest Elders, Mr. Andrew Scott and Mr. John Darrow Sr. performed this duty. A building committee was formed with Mr. W.C. Brown as Chairman and Mr. A.G. MacKenzie (still alive) as Treasurer.

Rev. Robert Bruce was diligent that the spiritual foundations of his people be as worshipful and devoutly laid as the bricks and mortar of the new building. The chief concern of the building committee in finding a contractor was also quite unexpectedly settled. Mr. Stephen Scott, a highly regarded builder of the Town offered his services at a very attractive figure. Mr. Scott had a benevolent regard for the Presbyterian cause and took a first mortgage at 5½ per cent interest. Mr. Wm. Middleton, a very proficient worker and Church member became Mr. Scott's assistant.

Building proceeded very well and was soon ready for the laying of the cornerstone about seven months after the turning of the sod. The laying of the cornerstone was a ceremony of historic interest to the citizens of Tillsonburg, and surrounding community and took place on Wednesday, November 26th, 1930. The

event took place under the direction of the Paris Presbytery. The occasion was one of thanksgiving to God for the measure of success which had attended the congregation's efforts thus far in the erection of the new edifice. The Clergy and membership of other denominations were well represented.

The winter following the laying of the cornerstone was one of feverish activity ending with the dedication of the new St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Friday, April 17th, 1931 at 8:00 o'clock. An excerpt from The Tillsonburg News was as follows: "The new St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was dedicated to the worship of

Robert Bruce, B.A.B.D. entered the Church followed by ministers of the Presbytery, the Session, Choir and leaders of the various societies of the Church, the processional Psalm being the 24th. The Minister then issued a call to worship."

The Rev. Robert Bruce accepted the Call of the congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, in Tillsonburg, at a critical time in its history. After the disruption of the church's life by the Church Union controversy in 1925 and the lack of leadership which resulted from the absence of a continuing ministry, his coming brought, to



Turning of Sod for New Church, April 21st, 1930

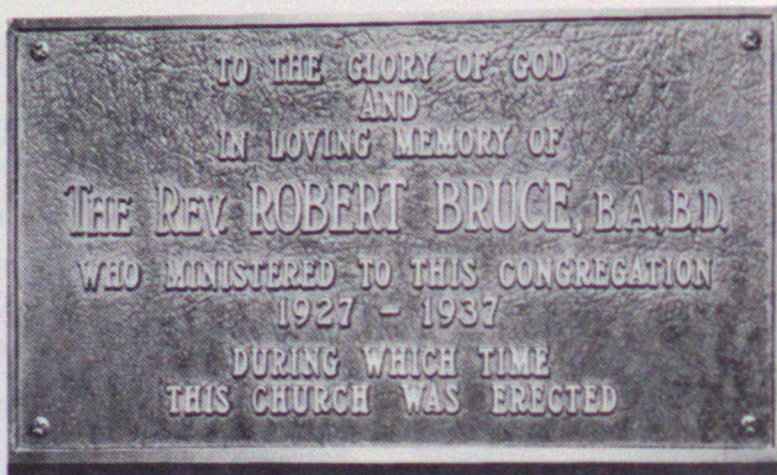
Back left to right, Rev. Brown, Presbyterian Church, Ingersoll; Rev. Carr, First Baptist; Rev. Dunbar, Anglican; Colin Brown; Hartley Berry; Rev. Skeen, Presbyterian Church, Norwich; Elgin Ford.

Front, Ebenezer Agur; John Darrow, senior elder; Rev. Robert Bruce, Minister; Andrew Scott.

Regrets - Three oldest members were unable to attend, Mrs. Brady, Miss Margaret Long, Mr. David Long.

God, with solemn and impressive services, on Friday last April 17th at 8 p.m. The Church was filled to capacity, large numbers being present from Ingersoll, Simcoe and Norwich. The dedicatory service was in charge of Rev. W.F. McConnell, B.A., Moderator of the Presbytery of Paris. Grant Brown, the young son of Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Brown, presented the Church keys to the Moderator, and the Pastor Rev.

the life of the congregation a stability which had been wanting. There were present in him those qualities that evoked from the people of the minority group which remained within The Presbyterian Church in Canada and eventually named the congregation St. Andrew's, the loyalty, devotion and support that were essential to the task of building -- a congregation and a sanctuary.



Inscription
on Memorial
Plaque
for
Rev. Bruce

THE REV. ROBERT BRUCE, B.A., B.D.

It is with a deep sense of loss that the Presbytery of Sarnia records the sudden passing on February 24th, 1960, of one of its beloved and devoted members, The Reverend Robert Bruce, B.A., B.D.

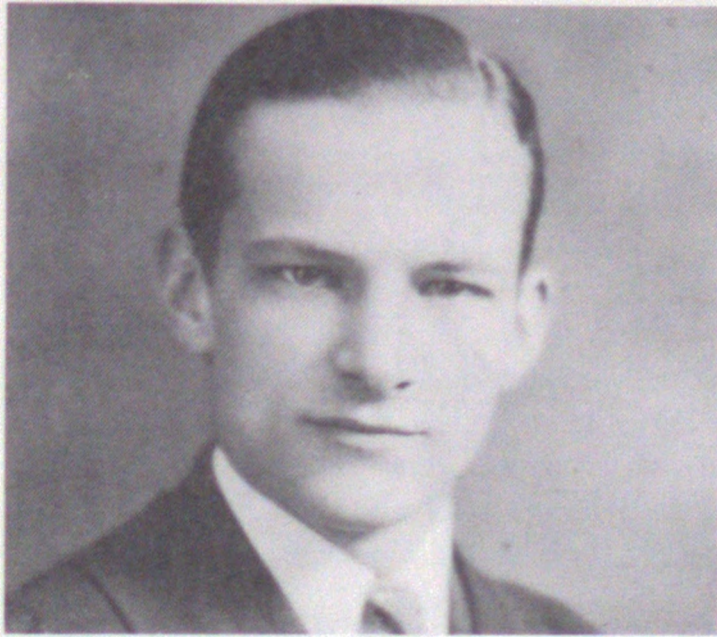
A graduate of Queen's University in both Arts and Theology, Mr. Bruce began his ministry at Valcartier, Quebec, as a student, and, after post-graduate work was ordained in 1918. His ministry was then entirely in Western Ontario -- seven years in The Presbytery of London, eleven years in The Presbytery of Paris and twenty-four years in The Presbytery of Sarnia. The Church at Tillsonburg was built and dedicated under his leadership in 1931, and the Church at Wallacetown was extensively altered and refinished during his ministry there in 1952. The pastoral charges of Nairn and Beechwood, Centre

Road and West Adelaide, and, latterly, Wyoming and Aberarder were also upbuilt and strengthened by his thoughtful, gracious and kindly ministry.

Mr. Bruce was born in Beaverton, Ontario, and entered Queen's University with a four years' scholarship from Harbord Collegiate Institute. His ministry was worthy of the finer traditions of our church. He was a devoted student and faithful pastor throughout his years of service. He belonged to the select company "who left a name behind them that their praises might be reported." Among the many tributes paid to him, it was said, "he brought intellectual distinction and spiritual vigour to the pulpit ministry of our church."

The above is taken from The Minutes of The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1960.





Dr. A.C. Cochrane followed Mr. Bruce as our minister from 1938 to 1942. He was a native of Belleville and a grandson of Rev. William Cochrane, D.D., a Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Dr. Cochrane recently returned from studying in Germany and Scotland, was ordained in St. Andrew's, Tillsonburg and then inducted into the pastoral charge Tillsonburg and Windham Centre.

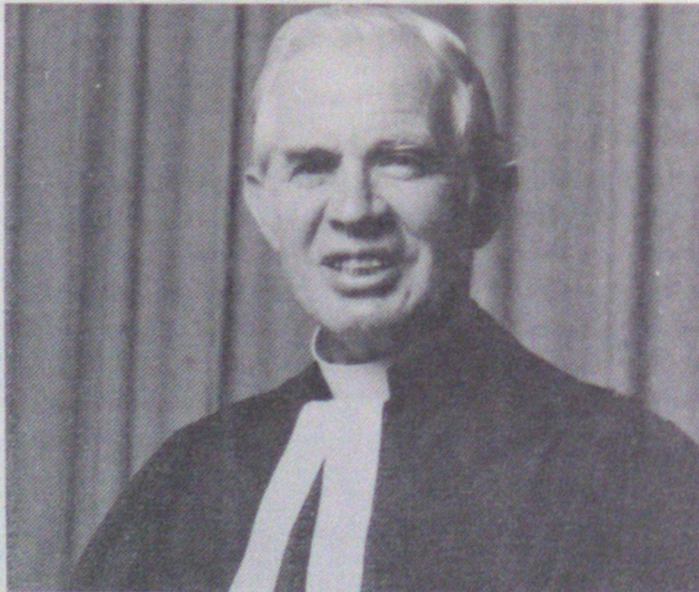


Rev. D.S. Jackson, B.A., followed the ministry of Dr. Cochrane and for two years served the pastoral charge of Tillsonburg and Windham Centre, January 10, 1943 to December 1944. Mr. Jackson was ordained in Knox Presbyterian Church, Stratford, on December 28th, 1942. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Ontario and graduated from The Presbyterian Theological College, Montreal.



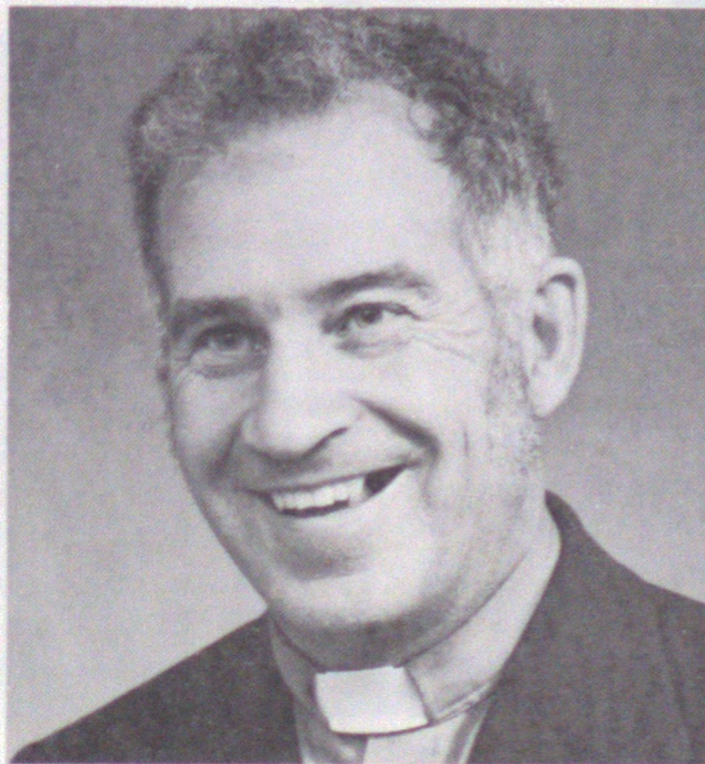
Rev. R.D. MacDonald, C.D., B.A., D.D. came to St. Andrew's in September 1946 following four years service in the Canadian Army and remained until September 1969. During his ministry he also gave much of himself to the community, serving in the Tillsonburg Public School Board, Ontario Public School Trustees Association, The Ontario School Trustees Council, as Chaplain of The Royal Canadian Legion, Tillsonburg Branch, in the Reserve Army and served on many Assembly Boards and Committees of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Mr. MacDonald received the Centennial Medal in 1967 and an Honorary D.D. in 1976 in recognition of his services.

Much growth was made at St. Andrew's during this long successful ministry. The manse was purchased adjoining the church, the Mabee property was bought to allow for future expansion and sold at a reasonable profit. Extra land was retained for future church expansion.



Rev. William Skelly. In July 1970 the congregations of Windham Centre and Tillsonburg called a new Minister Rev. William Skelly, M.A., of St. Catharines. Rev. Skelly was inducted in St. Andrew's Church, Tillsonburg on July 26th.

Born in Northern Ireland, Rev. Skelly holds an M.A. from Trinity College, Dublin, and is a graduate in Theology of the University of Edinburgh and of the University of Belfast. He served our pastoral charge until August 1976.



Rev. W.D. Jarvis. Rev. Jarvis came to the congregations of Tillsonburg and Windham Centre in May 1977.

Rev. Jarvis attended Queens University, graduating in 1953, and Knox College, graduating in 1956.



Ladies' Evening Group:

Seated left to right -

Mrs. Marjorie Young, Kay Tully, Audrey Smith, Neva Lamers, Flora Thompson, Connie Williams.

Standing left to right -

Dorothy Dahm, Peggy Goodlett, Joan Parker, Brenda Woom, Jo Wild, Margaret Orr, Milly Sandham, Lydia Tromp, Marlene Rockley, Glenna Smith, Ruth Brown.



Board of Managers:

Seated left to right -
 Ruth Boys, Ross Thompson, Bob Lamers , Wes Parker, Dave Townsend, Brenda Woom.
 Standing left to right:
 Danny Husted, Dave Brown, Wayne Rockley, Havens Smith, Nick Dahm.



St. Andrew's Kirk Session

Front left to right -
 Grant Brown, Allen Goodlett, J. Morrison, Rev. Jarvis, Victor Tillson, Wallace Kirkwood.
 Back left to right -
 Wesley Parker, Donald Dean, W. Orr, Donald Heath, Ross Thompson, John Lamers , John
 McQueen, Hartly Smith.

MEMORIAL WINDOWS
OF
ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Tillsonburg, Ontario

Kirk Window

This window has at its centre the figure of Christ holding the Chalice and giving a sign of blessing. This is symbolic of the first communion at the Last Supper.



In the upper left is the symbol Alpha & Omega entwined - Christ from beginning to end. At centre left is a shield bearing the letters "E.V.", being the symbol of Evangelism or spreading the Word of God. At the lower left are the scales, the symbol of Justice.

At the upper right is the combined symbol of the Greek letters "Chi-Rho" being a secret symbol used by Christians in times of persecution to identify one another. At the centre right is a shield bearing the cross of St. Andrew. At the lower right is The Cross superior to the crown which is superimposed thereon, representing the superiority of the Word of God over the earthly rulers.

At the upper centre is a lamp representing the lamp of faith or of light to the world while in the lower centre is the burning bush with the motto "it was not consumed". This of course represents the undying nature of The Faith and of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

William C. Brown (1872-1944) and his wife Jane (1878-1963) in whose memory this window was erected were faithful worshippers at St. Andrew's. Mrs. Brown was a member of the Board of Managers and Mr.

Brown was Chairman of the Building Committee at the time of the erection of St. Andrew's and he was also a member of the Board of Managers for many years.

Presentation in the Temple

"Lord let us now Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word"

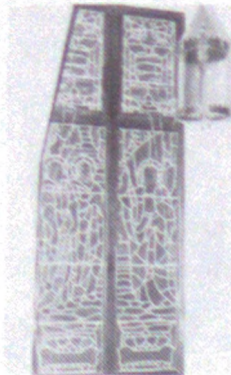


Shown in this window is Simeon holding the Infant Christ in the presence of Mary and Joseph and the old prophetess Anna.

This window was presented in memory of Mrs. Mary E. Tillson (1867-1957) who was a much loved founding member of St. Andrew's Church. She also served on the Board of Managers.

Calling the First Disciples

"One of the two which heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother."



This scene depicts Christ calling St. Andrew and St. Peter to be his disciples.

Erected by the children in memory of Colin E. Brown (1886-1963) and his wife, Carolyn (1887-1941) who were ardent supporters of St. Andrew's Church; Colin E.



St. Andrew's choir on a special occasion circa 1934 with help from their friends from other denominations.

Pulpit side back, Rev. Mr. Bruce, Frank Booth, Russel Bennett, Agnes Palmerton, Margaret Morrison.

Front, Marie Climie, Lydia Rodgers, Dolly Rodgers, Mrs. Colin Brown, Mrs. Will Brown, Irene Bushnell.

Organ side back, Donald Nobbs, organist; Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. McLeod, Hartley Berry.

Front, Mrs. Nobbs, Jenny Baird, Annie Reith, Jean Bushnell, Jean Darrow.



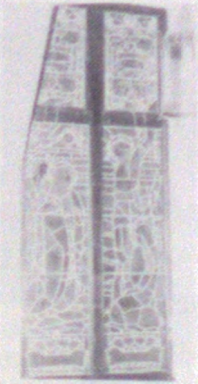
Services commemorating the 121st Anniversary of the formation of a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Tillsonburg was held on Sunday, April 28th, 1957 at St. Andrew's Church. The Rev. Wallace McLean of Lucknow was the guest minister. The Kirk Session held a meeting to finalize plans.

From left front, Dr. N.D. McLeod, Colin E. Brown, The Rev. R. Douglas MacDonald, John S. Morrison; back row, Victor H. Tillson, Harry Malcolm, A. MacLennan.

Brown was a member of Session from the founding of St. Andrew's until his death, during which time he was Clerk of Session for many years and his wife was a mainstay of the Church choir.

Crucifixion Scene

"Truly this was the Son of God"



Mary, John and Mary Magdalene at the Crucifixion of Christ is the subject of this window.

Mrs. V.T. (Nellie) Hewer (1886-1964) in whose memory this window was erected, was a faithful and ardent member of St. Andrew's Church, and was the Church Treasurer for over thirty years.

Resurrection Appearance

"Touch me not for I am not yet ascended to my Father"

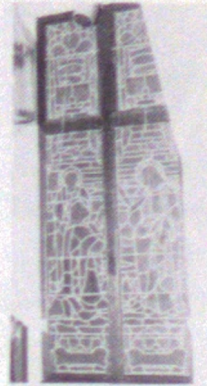


This window shows Christ appearing to Mary Magdalene in the Garden of Gethsemane on the first Easter.

The window was installed in memory of Miss Edith Brady (1877-1948) who taught Sunday School in St. Andrew's from the time of its founding until shortly before her death.

Feed My Sheep

"Jesus saith unto him, "Feed my Sheep"

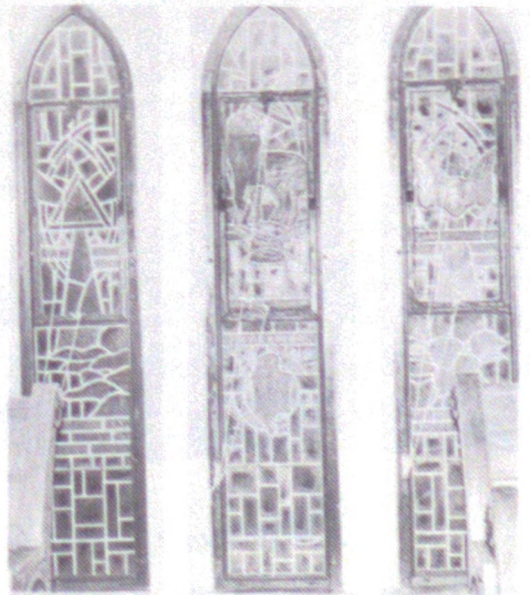


Depicted in this window is Christ appearing on the shore of the Tiberian Sea before Peter and two other disciples.

Catherine Tillson (1897-1968), in whose memory this window was installed, served on the Board of Managers and was the wife of Victor H. Tillson, an elder in St. Andrew's for many years.

Martyrdom of St. Andrew

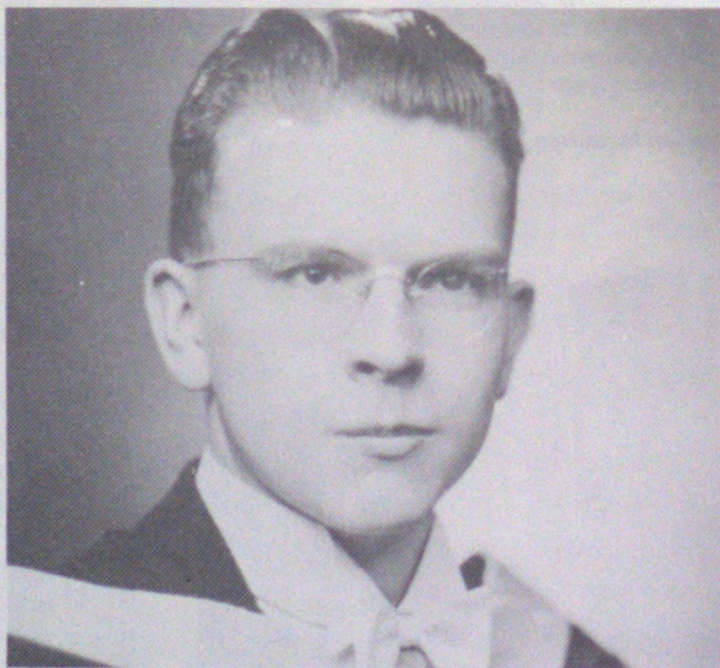
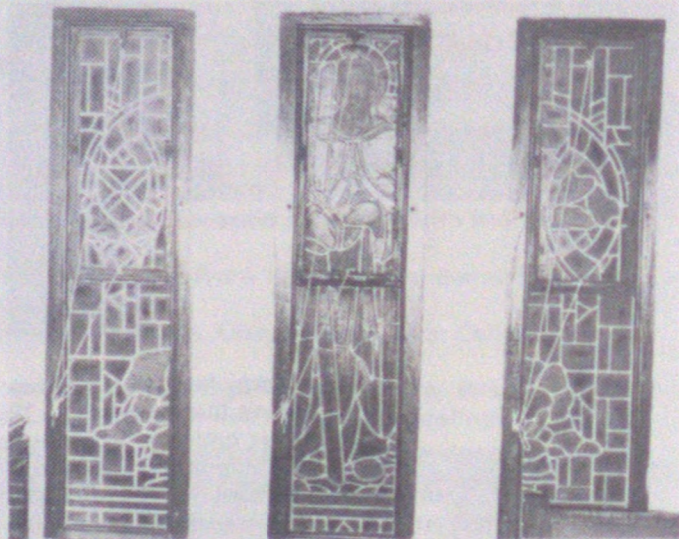
The theme of this window is the martyrdom of St. Andrew who is the central figure below the balcony. At the lower left is the



cross of St. Andrew and at the lower right is the symbol of the Trinity represented by three fish. At balcony level, the central figure is the Lamb of God, being the sym-

bol of sacrifice to take away the sins of the world. The upper left is a triangle of light, representing the Trinity, and the upper right is a dove symbolic of purity and the Holy Spirit.

Charles W. Thomas Jr. (1901-1969) in whose memory this window was installed, was a regular attendant and for several years a member of the Board of Managers and was latterly a member of the Session.



Ivan Carroll, a native of Tillsonburg and son of Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Carroll is a graduate of Tillsonburg high school and the University of Western Ontario where he received his B.A. degree. In April 1946 Ivan graduated in theology from Knox College, Toronto. On April 23 he was ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada under direction of the Paris Presbytery by an impressive service in St. Andrew's Church, Tillsonburg. Shortly after Rev. Carroll was inducted as pastor of Knox-St. Andrew's Church, North Battleford, Saskatchewan.



THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE by Elder Colin E. Brown to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was recognized during anniversary services at the Church on Sunday. As a tribute to Mr. Brown, the congregation presented new communion vessels to the Church. Left to right are Rev. Gordon R. Taylor, former Tillsonburg District High School teacher and speaker for the services; Victor H. Tillson; Craig Brown; Mr. Brown and Rev. R. Douglas MacDonald, minister of the Church. A coincidence noted in the carrying of the communion vessels in the service by Craig Brown was that his father, Grant C. Brown had carried the keys to the Church in opening ceremonies 28 years ago.



St. Andrew's Choir 1981

Left to Right, Front Row -
 Judy Sandham, Carolyn Sandham, Cindy Meharg, Elizabeth Kilner.
 2nd Row -
 Alf Corder, Peggy Goodlett, Jo Wild.
 3rd Row -
 Patti Wild, Margaret Orr, Millie Sandham.
 Back Row -
 Rev. W.D. Jarvis, Dave Brown, Organist Brad Scott, Allen Goodlett.
 Missing from picture -
 Stephanie Brown, Tom Sandham.

Board of Managers - Maintenance 1962-1980

March	1962	New oil furnace in Church.
April	1962	Mabee property purchased @ 5½ %.
Feb.	1963	Install automatic water heater.
May	1963	Repair tower of belfry.
Sept.	1966	New roof on Church.
Jan.	1967	New furnace in manse. Gas.
	1968	Paint Sunday School and make roll partition.
June	1969	New roof on manse.
	1970	Renovate main floor of manse.
July	1971	Repair garage of manse.
	1972	Converted furnace of Church to gas.
Oct.	1973	Renovated choir room and vestry.
Dec.	1973	New communion table in memory of Russell Bennet.
	1962	Purchased Mabee property, \$30,000.
	1973	Paid off last of note at bank for same.
	1975	Sold apartment house, Mabee property.
	1975	Placed fence between Mabee property and church.
July	1977	Painted interior of Church.
Sept.	1978	Repair chimney.
Sept.	1979	Put aluminum on manse.
Mar.	1980	Put storm windows on Church.
Apr.	1980	Put fans in Church. Fans 291.46. Electrician 126.01.
June	1980	Renovated room at N.E. corner in Church office. Fire-proof safe. Desk. Calculator.
June	1980	Carpet in Church, \$4,770.00. New vacuum \$508.25.

Elders and Session Clerks 1925-1980

June 30th, 1925	A.L. Scott J.A. Darrow H. Berry
April 15th, 1928	E. Agur C.E. Brown, 4th Nov. 1928
Feb. 7th, 1930	E. Ford
June 13th, 1937	Dr. N.D. McLeod, Clerk Feb. 22, 1959
June 20th, 1937	D. Monteith
October 27th, 1946	J. Morrison, Clerk Feb. 4, 1968 Harry Malcolm
June 10th, 1948	V.H. Tillson A. MacLennan
June 1st, 1958	A.D. Goodlett, Clerk Dec. 1, 1979 Chas. Thomas Jr.
September 22nd, 1963	G.C. Brown W.P. Kirkwood
June 1st, 1968	Don Dean Don Heath John McQueen
May 7th, 1972	Tunis Tollenaar Wm. Orr
April 1st, 1979	Ross Thompson John Lamers Sr. Hartley Smith Wesley Parker



Dr. A. Lorne MacKay, B.A., B.D., D.D., LL.D.

The fiftieth anniversary of the sod turning of St. Andrew's was marked by an impressive sermon from Dr. MacKay, a recent Moderator of the General Assembly and minister of Central Presbyterian Church, Hamilton.



MRS. V.T. (Nellie) HEWER

Mrs. Hewer was a faithful member of St. Andrew's holding the office of treasurer for many years. She could also find time for numerous other interests such as The Women's Missionary Society and the Sunday School. Her father Ebenezer Agur was one of the first elders of the Church. Her faithful family consisted of son Clayton and daughter Mrs. Dorothy Meston.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The History of St. Andrew's Sunday School

Our story begins in 1927, after Church union, when the early records show that Hartley Berry, followed by Harry Malcolm, were the Superintendents of the Sunday School. Since there was not a Church building, at that time, Sunday School was held in a theatre in town, until our present Church was built. (In 1930-1931.)

The Minister in 1927 was Mr. Bruce, and the Teachers were as follows: Mrs. John Morrison; Mrs. H. Malcolm; Mrs. John Sinclair; Miss Edith Brady and Miss Margaret Webster.

Mr. Harry Malcolm remained Superintendent until 1937 and at that time Mr. John Morrison took over the position.

From the minute book, kept by Mrs. Hewer, we are able to report more fully on the History of the Sunday School, since 1955, when the Superintendent was Mr. John Morrison; the Treasurer was Jim Priddle; the Secretary was Mrs. Hewer; and the Teachers were as follows: Mrs. Martha Thomas; Mrs. Peggy Goodlett; Mrs. Murray Weeks; Mrs. Lois Heath; Mrs. Greta McLeod; Miss Jenny Baird; Mrs. Atwood; Mrs. Hewer and Mr. Morrison. At this time Rev. Douglas MacDonald was the Minister.

Records tell us that Christmas programs were held each year with the Ladies' Aid packing and providing bags of candies and fruit. Candlelight Carol services were also held and presentation of awards for Sunday School attendance were given out. In June the Congregational picnics were held at Memorial Park with good attendance at them all.

In 1959, there were 143 children on the roll call and there was not enough room for all the classes.

Sunday School was held at 9:45 A.M. and some of the new teachers were as follows: Mary Ellen MacDonald; Mr. Hayward; Joan Lamers; Mrs. Ken Weeks. During this year 27 children received seals and diplomas for perfect attendance.

The treasurer's position changed hands several times from Jim Priddle to Mrs. Murray Weeks, then Jenny Baird took over the books.

In 1961 there was a change in our Sunday School, when Primary members began holding their classes during the Church Service, leaving the Church after the Children's Hymn, to go to their classes. The Senior members were still attending at 10:00 A.M. This was done to help relieve

the crowded conditions that existed at that time.

In 1962, 18 seals and Robert Raikes' diplomas for perfect attendance were given out to the children.

In 1965 there were approximately 100 children enrolled in the Sunday School. Mr. Morrison was still our Superintendent. Mrs. Hewer was unable to continue her job as Secretary, due to poor health and passed away a short time later. Mrs. Joan Parker, who began teaching in 1961, became the new Secretary to the Sunday School.

In 1967, Jenny Baird resigned as Treasurer and at that time Mrs. Parker became Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1968 Mr. John Morrison resigned as Superintendent. He had completed 31 years.

Mr. Ken Riveley was appointed Superintendent at the Annual meeting in 1968. He moved away in 1969 and, therefore, only held the position a short time. During this short time a number of changes were made. -- All the Sunday School classes were to be held during the Church Service at 11:00 A.M. -- On Mother's Day the tradition of giving parties, by the children, to the Mothers and Ladies of the congregation began. It has been continued since then with different plants given from time to time. The Congregation Picnic was held at Little Lake Park, for a change, with a large number in attendance. In the spring of 1969 the Senior class went on a trip to the Museum in Toronto.

Through the years the records show us that many of the teenagers in the Church were very helpful and assisted with running the projector for hymn sings, playing the piano, or teaching the young boys and girls.

Donald Dean became Superintendent in 1969, following Mr. Ken Riveley. Our Church was without a Minister at this time as Rev. MacDonald had moved away, and all efforts were made to keep our Sunday School together.

In 1972, Mrs. Joan Parker became our Sunday School Superintendent and continues to hold this position. Mrs. Parker also does the Treasurer's work.

During the years we have had the faithful support of many of the members of the congregation who have helped with the teaching of the boys and girls. Some of

these, not mentioned before, are as follows: Margaret Orr; Glenna Smith; Flora Thompson; Audrey Smith; Kaye Tully; Jo Wild; Dave Brown; Mrs. Swatridge; Laura MacDonald; Ruth Lounsbury; Ruth Srigley; Judy Sandham; Louise Morrison.

In 1980-81 the teaching staff consists of: Mrs. Parker, Superintendent and Treasurer; Connie Williams, Secretary; Nick and Dorothy Dahm; Trudy Vass; Mary Henry; Betty Smith; Myrt. Goethels; Brenda

Townsend, Pianist.

Before concluding this history, special recognition should be made for the long services given by the following: Miss Jenny Baird; Mr. John Morrison; Mrs. Kathleen Stroud; Mrs. Peggy Goodlett and in remembrance of Mrs. Hewer whose devotion and dedication, as Secretary, helped compile this History of our Church.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF



Left to right -
Trudy Vass; Dorothy Dahm; Nick Dahm; Connie Williams; Brenda Woon; Joan Parker; Betty Smith; Mary Henry.





GIFTS & REMEMBRANCES

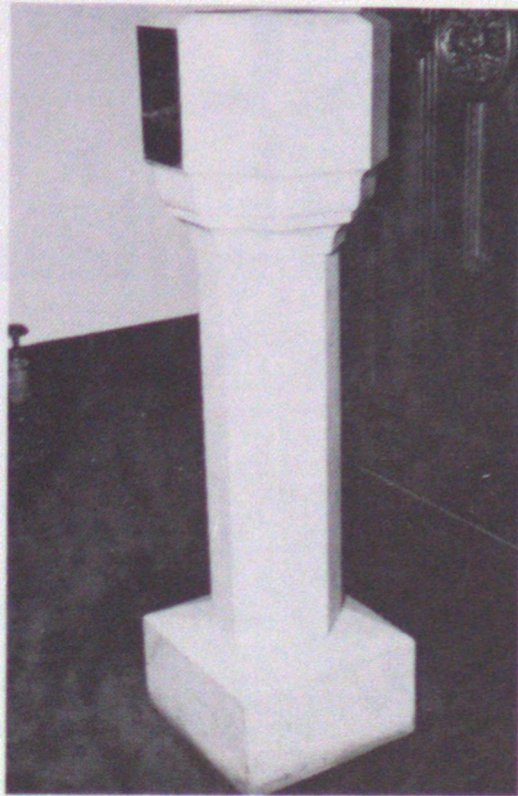
The Dedication of a Memorial to Mrs. H.R. Malcolm

Mr. H.R. Malcolm presented new Communion Bread Trays to the congregation of St. Andrew's as a memorial to his wife who died on March 2, 1963. The formal presentation was made by Mr. L.P. Meston, M.L.A., of Three Hills, Alberta, who acted for the donor. The Dedication took place on Sunday, October 13, 1963.

Mrs. Malcolm served the Church in many ways during her life. She was particularly active in the work of organizing St. Andrew's after the disruption of 1925 and during the years immediately following that crisis she took a special interest in the upbuilding of the Sunday School in which she taught. For many years she and her husband worked hard to stimulate the interest of this congregation in The Presbyterian Record. As a faithful member of the Women's Missionary Society from its beginning, she had served as President and Honorary President of St. Andrew's Women's Missionary Society.

This gift makes a complete set of matched Communion Vessels and is one for which the Kirk Session would express sincere gratitude to the donor.





TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WILLIAM AND ANNIE REITH
BY THEIR DAUGHTER
ROSE HAMILTON
1941



THE PICTURE OF THE QUEEN
THE CONGREGATION OF ST. ANDREW'S IN
LOVING MEMORY OF THE LATE MISS
MARION PRIDDLE.



COMMUNION TABLE

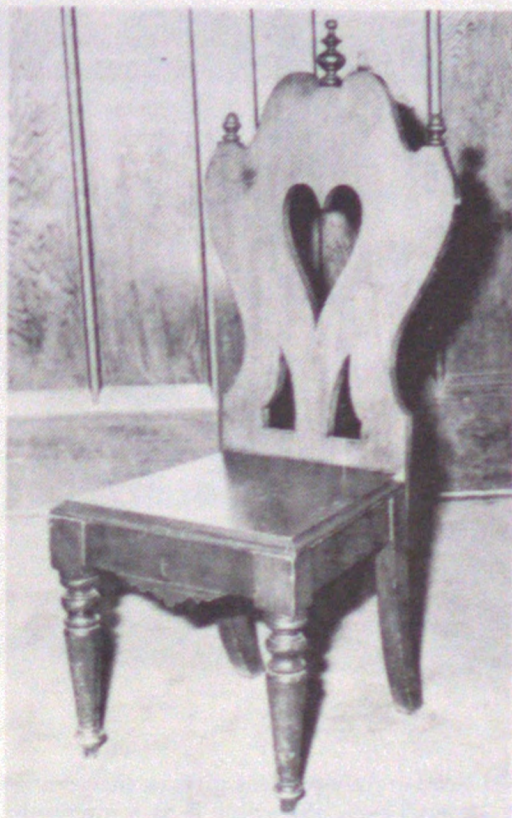
Presented by St. Andrew's Church to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Russel Bennett. Died March 21, 1972.

CROSS

Presented by St. Andrew's to the Glory of God and in honor of Dr. and Mrs. N.D. McLeod on their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, March 4, 1972.

CANDLE HOLDERS

Presented by St. Andrew's Church to the Glory of God and in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Morrison on their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary, August 4, 1979.

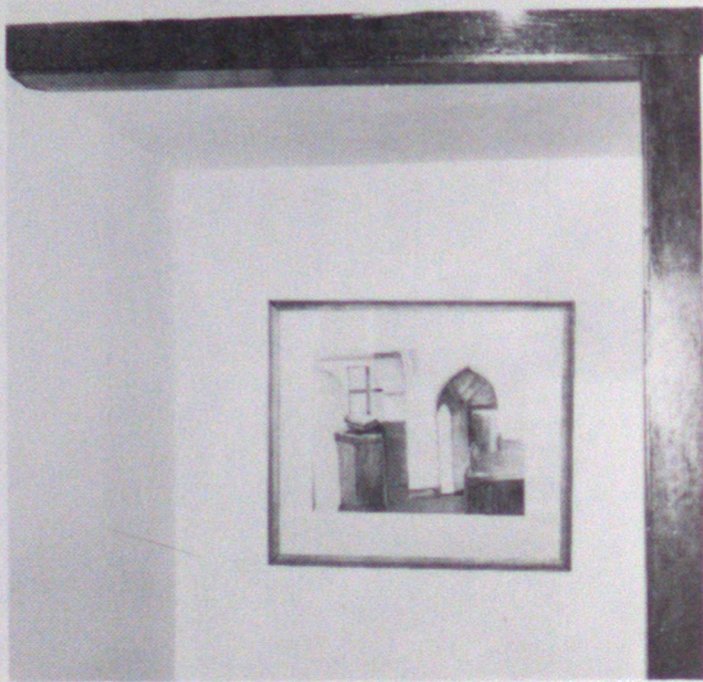


ANTIQUA CHAIR FROM THE LONG ESTATE

At the time of sod turning for the new Church, two of the oldest members, David and Maggie Long were not able to attend due to poor health. Their farm home was an impressive brick house furnished elegantly with antiques carefully draped to protect from dust. Unfortunately they did not live to see the Church building completed. The Church building committee saved the old chair pictured here as a keepsake and memento of the Longs. It now serves St. Andrew's as pulpit chair.

BAPTISMAL BOWL

To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Alexander MacKenzie Darrow, 5th of March, 1930 - 19th of November, 1951 - Presented by his sisters.



The late Miss Rheta Field liked archways. This picture shows one in our Church which she painted and presented to St. Andrew's. We value it as a memento of a staunch member.



Spring 1957 (Anniversary Sunday)

Front row, left to right -
 Pipe Major Robert Colling, Scouts (Carpenter?); Ralph Thomas; Brian Thatcher; Scout Master Donald M. Dean; Scouts - Craig Brown, Daniel Forbes, Dave Campbell, Piper Dave Ritchie.
 Second row -
 Scouts - Shaw, Dave Kennedy, Blackwell Thomas, Rory MacDonald, Ken Krafft, John Allan, Dave Heath.

The members of the St. Andrew's Church Book Committee extend their appreciation to the individuals and institutions who have made this book a reality. To the press, chiefly The Tillsonburg News, who recorded events relating to churches in the district for up to 150 years in the past. Also of much value was the collection of clippings and pictures in what for years has been known as Mrs. Hewer's Scrap Book. To Joan Parker for the history of the Sunday School since 1925 and Donald Morrison for photos of present students and staff.

To Rev. Dr. Douglas MacDonald and others for loaning pictures. We also thank typists from the Brown and Brown Law Office for valuable help.

Special thanks to John S. Morrison, who was largely responsible for assembling this booklet.