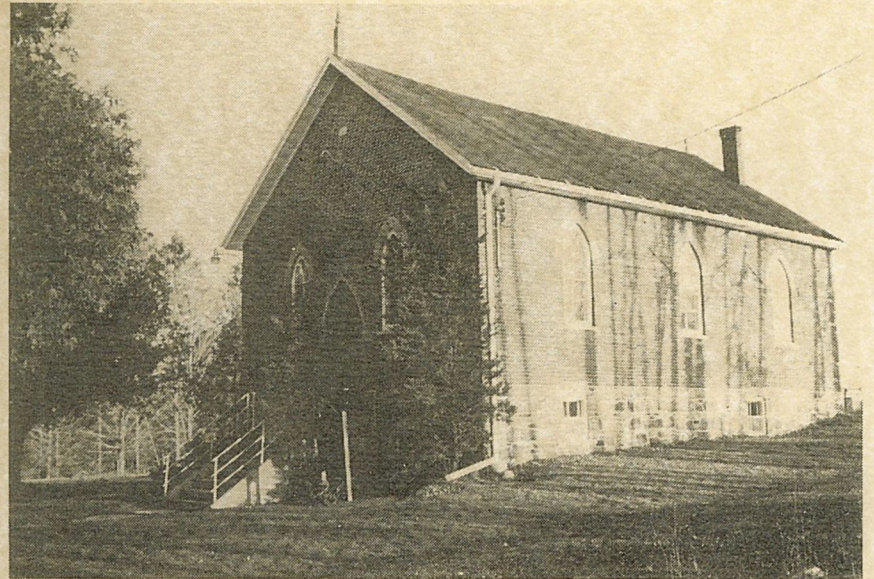
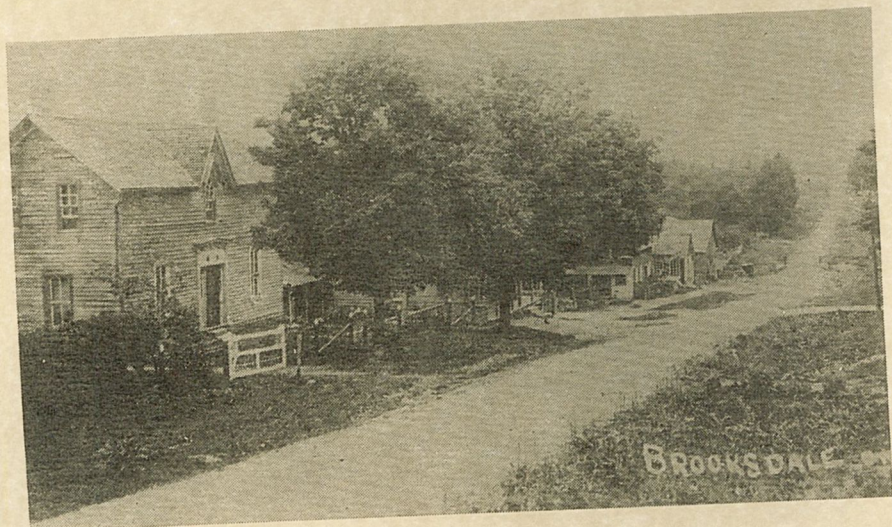


ST. ANDREW'S  
UNITED CHURCH  
BROOKSDALE



*One Hundredth Anniversary*  
*1883 - 1983*





Brooksdale

## COUNTRY CHURCH

There's a little country church  
Nestled in a cozy dale,  
Where the people come to worship  
In a place called Brooksdale.

Here they sing the hymns old-fashioned  
Here they quietly bow to pray,  
And the rafters old and seasoned  
Sometimes echo words they say.

Here they listen very humbly  
On each Sabbath morning bright  
To the word so simply spoken -  
How to follow in the light.

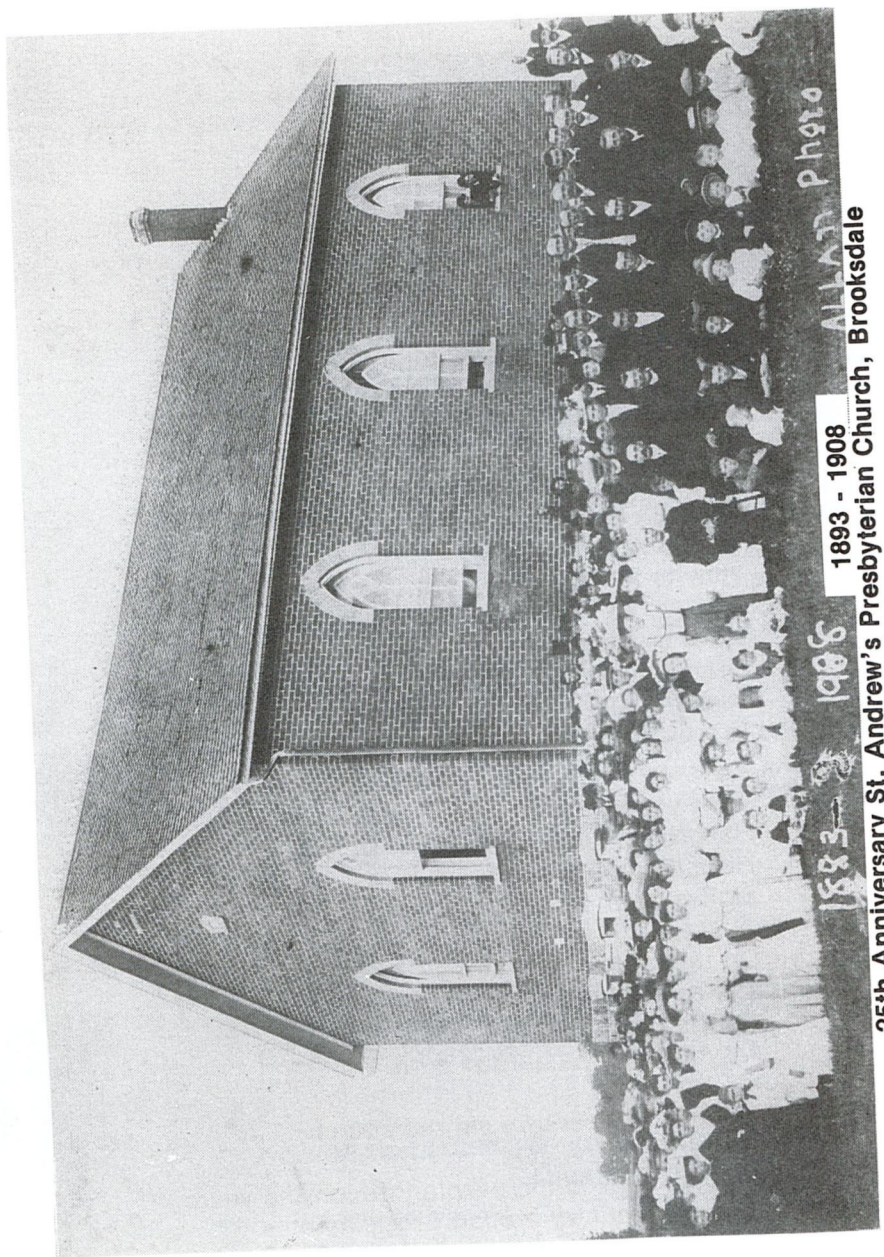
Here the organ new and mellow,  
Sends out music wondrous sweet,  
And we pause in friendly greeting  
Ere the Sabbath is complete.

Above the piano in The Sunday School  
Hangs 'Salmons', - 'Head of Christ' so fair  
Here the image of the Saviour  
Smiles down on children there.

On the table of our Lord,  
The candles glow each Sunday morn.  
Uplifted is the lighted cross  
A symbol of the burden born.

We love this century old red church  
Sheltered in the dale,  
That has served the people through the years  
From the country around Brooksdale.





1883-1908 ALLAN PHOTO  
 1883-1908  
 25th Anniversary St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Brooksdale

**Ministers of St. Andrews Church - Brooksdale**  
 (1878 Brooksdale and Burns Congregations United)

- 1879 - Rev. Amos
- 1881-1891 - Rev. Robert Scott
- 1889-1893 - Rev. R. Pyke (Interim Moderator)
- 1893-1904 - Rev. J.D. Fergusson
- 1905-1906 - Rev. H. McCulloch (Interim Moderator)
- 1906-1914 - Rev. S.M. Whaley
- 1914-1918 - Rev. F.C. Overend
- 1918 - Rev. Finlay Matheson (Interim Moderator)
- 1919-1920 - Rev. James Hogen
  
- October 26, 1919 - Union with Knox Presbyterian Church, Harrington
  
- 1920-1925 - Rev. A.D. Cornett
  
- June 10, 1925 - Church Union
  
- 1925 - Rev. Strachan (Interim Moderator)
  
- October 11, 1925 - Union with Ebenezer Congregational Church, Embro
  
- 1925 - Rev. C. Tavener
- 1926-1934 - Rev. Andrew Laing
- 1934-1943 - Dr. M.W. Goodrich
  
- July 1943 - Union with Chalmers United Church, Kintore
  
- 1943-1946 - Rev. Herbert A. Boyd
- 1946-1951 - Rev. J.N. Sceviour
- 1951-1952 - Rev. M.C. Gandier (Interim Moderator)
- 1952-1956 - Rev. John Douglas
- 1956-1960 - Rev. C.W. DeWitt Cosens
- 1960-1962 - Rev. J.R. Dickinson
- 1962-1966 - Rev. Austin G. Gay
- 1966-1969 - Rev. Clyde G. Taylor
- 1969-1977 - Rev. Elizabeth Chapman
- 1977-1978 - Rev. Douglas Markle (Interim Moderator)
- 1978-1981 - Rev. Gwyn Tucker
- 1981- - Pastor Ross Hargreaves





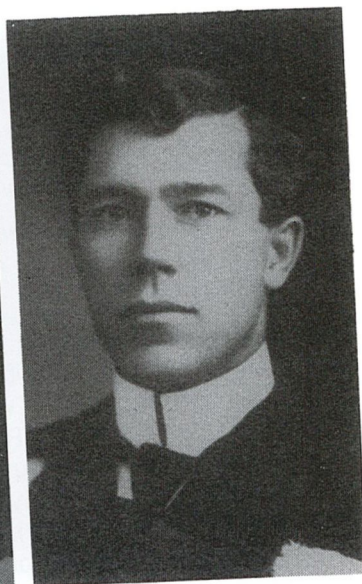
**Rev. Robert Scott**  
1881-1891

**Rev. J.D. Fergusson**  
1893-1904

**Rev. S.M. Whaley**  
1906-1914



**Rev. and Mrs. Robert Scott**  
1881-1891



**Rev. F.C. Overend**  
1914-1918

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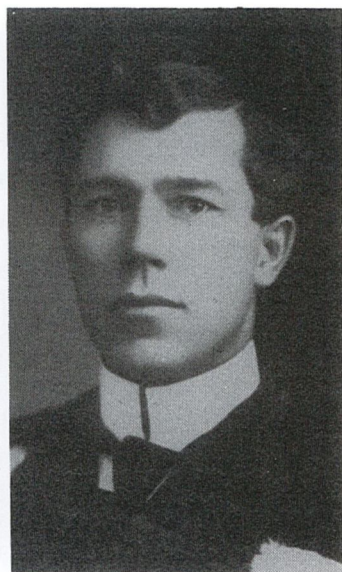
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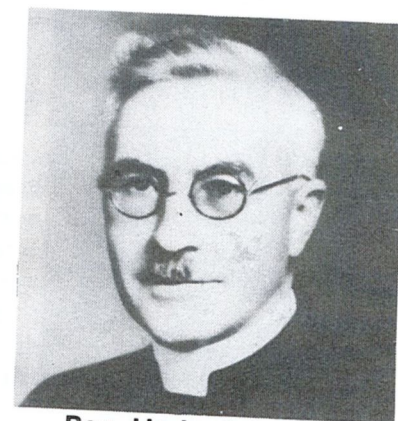
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**Rev. Herbert A. Boyd**  
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**Rev. J.N. Sceviour**  
1946-1951

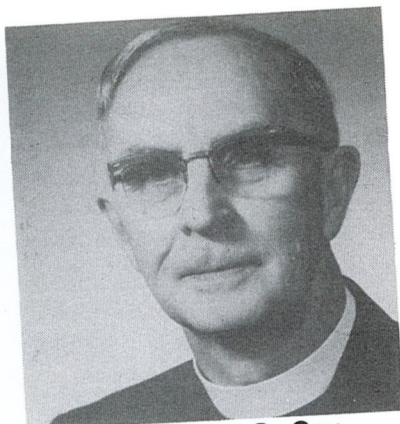


**Rev. John Douglas**  
1952-1956

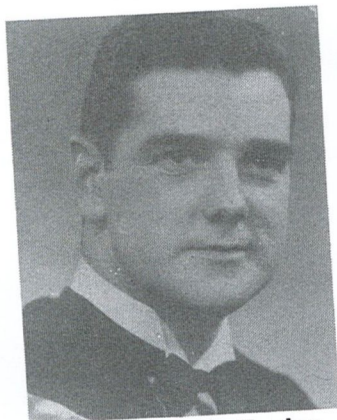




**Rev. C.W. DeWitt Cosens**  
1956-1960



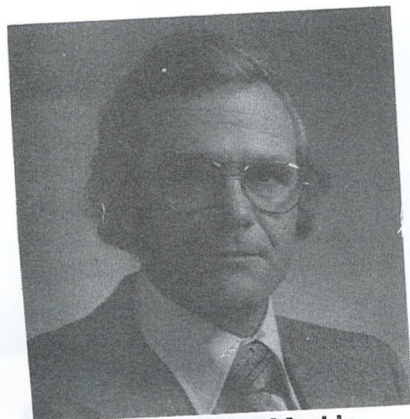
**Rev. Austin G. Gay**  
1962-1966



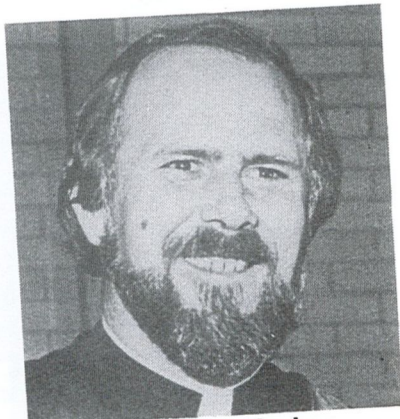
**Rev. Clyde G. Taylor**  
1966-1969



**Rev. M. Elizabeth Chapman**  
1969-1977



**Rev. Douglas Markle**  
1977-1978



**Rev. Gwyn Tucker**  
1978-1981



**Pastor Ross Hargreaves**  
1981-

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to write this forward for the history booklet of St. Andrews United Church, Brooksdale, as we celebrate our centennial. I consider it an honour to be pastor of this beautiful rural church which has served this community for one hundred years giving leadership and providing an opportunity to praise God.

As I think of the history of this church that has been realized over the years, I am reminded of the great sense of loyalty of ministers who have served and the church officers who have faithfully carried out their duties throughout the years as well as the families in this community whose lives have been influenced by the ministry of our church. I am filled with gratitude and praise to God! In this century of Christian service the Brooksdale church has meant a great deal to it's members who have been faithful in their service to God and His Church.

This anniversary marks the end of a chapter and the beginning of another in the life of our church. It is a time to reflect on our past and to look forward with anticipation to the future; a time when former members have been invited to unite with us in inspiration and good Christian fellowship.

My sincere prayer is that God will grant to all the sons and daughters of St. Andrews United Church, Brooksdale, His continued Spiritual blessing. May we realize together the great heritage that has been granted to us in this church century.

Coyla joins me in wishing God's richest blessing on you and your families.

The Lord bless and keep you. Amen.



## ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH AT BROOKSDALE

For some years before the erection of the church, meetings and services were held irregularly in the homes, in school houses and at times, out doors.

Our country is built up by men and women who sacrifice greatly in coming as pioneers from their homelands for the sake of freedom of religion. They established a congregation without a minister, under the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. This, some years later, became the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

In 1830 Rev. Andrew Bell, preacher and author from Scotland was the first clergyman to conduct services in Zorra. He remained for just three days. In 1833 Rev. George Romanes, a minister from Glasgow, Scotland, preached while on a visit to Canada. He found a log church which was holding regular, well attended services, even though they had no minister. In 1834 this log church on Lot 9, Concession 7 extended a call to the Rev. Donald McKenzie, who was ordained into the ministry just before leaving Scotland. His first place to hold services around Brooksdale was in Squire Gordon's log house on Lot 32, Concession 4. This same house was also used as a school previous to the building of the present S.S. No. 7, West Zorra.

Rev. D.M. McKenzie was the first Presbyterian missionary throughout the Southern counties in Ontario from Lake Erie to the Detroit River and North to Lake Huron. He travelled the distance on horse back as it was the only means of travel over rough country and unbroken trails, through dense forests where bears and wolves roamed. He met many hazards and hardships in carrying on this early ministry.

At first, the old log church congregation was comprised by those dwelling within a twenty-five mile radius. This included Brooksdale for a time. Folk from Brooksdale area would walk to this church in their bare feet (to preserve their shoes), wash their feet in the creek close to the church and put on their shoes. These services usually lasted all day.

Between 1844 and 1875, services were held occasionally by various ministers. Among those were Rev. James Mullen, Rev. Mr. Millan, Mr. Steward, Mr. Romell, Mr. Shearer and others.

The first records of marriages and baptisms are still in our files. The marriages record dates back to 1862 and that of the baptisms to 1858.

In 1878 Brooksdale and Burns congregations were united into one charge. Services at Brooksdale were held in the old frame school house, which was near the north west corner. A few of the present congregation can remember attending services there.

Rev. Robert Scott was inducted as minister in 1881. The manse used by his family is the house still remaining near the south, west corner. Rev. Scott was the minister when this church was built and for some years following its erection in the summer of 1883.

The building committee was Wm. Innes Sr., Wm. Innes Jr., George Cormack and John Bagrie. Ben Youngs of Stratford erected the building. Opening services were conducted by Rev. J.K. Smith D.D. of Galt in 1883.

Our church is unique in that it is one of the few remaining congregations to have, in trust, a Crown Church grant of 200 acres called the Clergy Reserve. The site of the church is near the North West corner of the farm. The first farm trustees were Wm. Wilson, James Innes and James McBurney. In 1958 nine thousand spruce and pine trees were planted on this clergy farm.

The names of some of those connected with the church in its infancy have continued with it through the years, as, that of Innes, Green, Gibb, Rutherford, Thomson and McDonald families

The name of John Bagrie, the village blacksmith, is worthy of recognition at this time, as he held an important place in the early church. He was Secretary-Treasurer from 1880 until 1908 with the exemption of seven years when James Innes held the office. The present pulpit is his handiwork as is the desk in the Sunday School room. We owe a debt of gratitude to his memory for his generous and untiring efforts in the interests of the church.

Also deserving of our honour is the late George Manson who, from 1892 until 1916 was clerk of the Session. He was Superintendent of the Sunday School and Bible Class teacher. On occasion capably occupied the pulpit. He gave us a splendid written account of the church history on the 25th Anniversary held the fifth and sixth of July 1908.

With the closing of the Methodist Church across the road, in 1915, new names appear in the records such as Symons, Chenoweth, Reed, Bean, Youngs and Lindsay.

In 1883 the music was led by precentor Alex McDonald. The congregation stood to pray and sat down to sing. This was later changed after permission from the session. In 1901 an organ was purchased and some members left the congregation. In 1908 the Book of Praise was introduced.

In 1910 an Adult Bible Class was organized with 46 Charter members. Some names from the Methodist Church appear as they held no regular Sunday School and a great number attended our Sunday School.

Communion services in those by gone days consisted of



preparatory service on Friday, and communion on Sunday. Tokens were distributed to members on Monday. The first Communion Set consisted of two plates for the Bread, a silver pitcher and two silver cups for the Wine - one for men and one for women. The common cup method was replaced in 1921, when the Individual Communion Set took its place.

At the annual meeting in 1890 a missionary society for the congregation was organized, with Mrs. James Innes as President. The society was known for many years as the Woman's Foreign Mission Society, later shortened to Woman's Missionary Society.

During both World Wars many of our boys answered the call to serve their country and to preserve the religious freedom for which their parents and grandparents had pioneered. Some made the supreme sacrifice. Honour Rolls hang in the church entrance in their memory.

During the first World War the ladies of this church were active in Red Cross Work sending boxes and comforts to the soldiers. This work resulted in the organization of the Ladies Aid Society in 1920 later referred to as the Woman's Association. Mrs. Thomas Rutherford was the first president and a Sunday School teacher for many years. The W.M.S. and W.A. have always been closely associated and these women have contributed much to religious education, and beauty of our church and betterment of the community.

In October of 1919 the Brooksdale congregation became associated with that of Harrington. In January 1920 Rev. A.D. Cornett was inducted and given charge of both congregations. In the fall of 1921 Rev. Cornett re-organized a Young People's Society, which became an active and continuing organization of the church. Alex Thomson was the first president. Many debates and plays were presented during the winter months in years to follow.

The year 1925 was a year of crisis for St. Andrew's Church, Brooksdale, for it was in May of that year that the Union Movement reached its climax. Voting was held on several days and when the poll closed and the ballots counted, the voting result was fifty-eight for union and forty-one against. Several members withdrew their names from the Communion Roll of Brooksdale and joined Harrington Knox Presbyterian Church, leaving a small congregation to carry on St. Andrew's United Church, Brooksdale. Our pastoral relations with Harrington were also severed following union and the resignation of Rev. Cornett. Rev. Strachan from Lakeside supplied our church until October 11, 1925 when Brooksdale united with Ebenezer Congregational Church, Embro, under the pastorate of Rev. C. Tavener.

In 1926 Rev. Andrew Laing was called and was pastor for eight years. He was a very scholarly person and wonderful teacher.

During Mr. Laing's ministry a park grounds of 3 acres east of

the Church was laid out and evergreen and maple trees planted around the three sides. Mr. John Whaley was very interested and engineered this project, even though a man up in years he was interested in youth and the future. Clergy trustees at this time were Wm. Bell, Harry Matheson and Ray Pielt.

There was no special celebration for the 50th Anniversary in 1933 due mainly to the fact that the congregation was reduced following the Church Union and the whole country was in the throes of the depression of the thirties. Rev. Fred Langford preached this anniversary service.

In 1934 Dr. M.W. Goodrich came to minister to our congregation. Many of us will recall his beautifully illustrated and picturesque sermons. He remained until 1934 when Ebenezer Church was closed in Embro. The tragic death of Dr. & Mrs. Goodrich in 1955 was received by our people with deep sympathy for the surviving families.

In 1943 Brooksdale became associated with Chalmers United Church, Kintore. The Rev. Herbert A. Boyd, missionary to China was the pastor, who remained until June of 1946 when he and Mrs. Boyd returned to China. They remained only a short time, when they were forced to return home, when they were driven out by the Communists.

In 1946 Rev. J.N. Sceviour, a son of Newfoundland, was called to Kintore and Brooksdale and remained five years. During his ministry the congregation made plans to renovate their little church. Many will remember how we trudged around to the south to get in to the church. It had been suggested that the interior of the church be reversed but this was only a dream until a mighty wind in the summer of 1949 blew out the bricks at the north end of the church. 'God moves in mysterious ways, His wonders to perform.' While the wall had to be rebuilt, the managers decided this could be a good time to set the church around. A former member of our church, Clarence Youngs now of Lambeth, drew up plans for the present church interior, with the entrance to the north and front of the church.

Mr. Wm. Youngs, Ray Pielt, George 'Scott' Green and Charles Lindsay spent many hours of loving labour upon this House of God, along with all the men and women of the congregation. The chairman of the building committee was Adam Green. In November of 1949 it was a place of beauty in which to worship. Rev. Sceviour preached on the theme 'The Church of Our Dreams'. During the service a beautiful oak communion table was dedicated by Rev. Sceviour in memory of his parents. The same year the church sheds were torn down to make way for a parking lot.

For a year we were supplied by Rev. M.C. Gandier, who endeared himself to the congregation.

In 1952 Rev. John Douglas, a Scotsman, was called to minister to Kintore and Brooksdale for four years. He was young and



energetic and preached arousing, thoughtful sermons.

In 1953 the Sunday School was enlarged by adding a cement block building at the rear of the basement for a kitchen and the installation of an oil furnace.

In 1955 the Oxford County Travelling Library was introduced into our church. Books of good reading for adults and children are exchanged quarterly. This is a wonderful opportunity for reading and is much appreciated.

The Young People's Society presented to the church in 1956 a beautiful pulpit bible in the Revised Standard Version replacing the King James Version.

In 1956, Rev. C.W. DeWitt Cosens, from Toronto was called to Kintore and Brooksdale. Both he and Mrs. Cosens were a great spiritual blessing to these congregations.

## SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF

### ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH\* BROOKSDALE- 1883-1958

On June 22, 1958 we celebrated our 75th Anniversary. Four former ministers taking part were, Rev. Douglas of Guelph, who read the Bible lesson from his Scottish Bible and offered prayer. Rev. Herbert Boyd of Burlington delivered the sermon in the morning. In the evening Rev. M.C. Gandier of Grimsby was the speaker and Rev. J.N. Sceviour of Highgate read the Bible lesson, offered prayer and pronounced the benediction. Rev. C.W. DeWitt Cosens, present minister conducted both morning and evening services.

Three brass offering Plates were dedicated to the church in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Whaley by their son.

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## ST. ANDREW

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The Brooksdale male quartette, Ray Piett, Russell Youngs, George Cooper and George 'Scott' Green sang, 'Crossing the Bar', 'The Old Wayside Cross', and 'May I Come In?'. Mrs. Mary-Joe Symons sang, Hymns of the Old Church Choir accompanied by Mrs. Harold Jackson. In the evening the Ladies Quartette, Helen Piett, Christine Piett, Vida Mae Innes, Mary Munro sang 'The Church by the Side of the Road'. Pianist was Mrs. Albert Rutherford.

A little booklet giving some interesting facts in the history of Brooksdale church was prepared by Mrs. Garnet Lindsay and Mrs. Roy Piett and given to all those who wished a copy.

A picture of all those attending was taken outside on the lawn.

The Brooksdale W.A. offered generous hospitality to the very large crowd of visitors, many of whom came to both services, filling the church sanctuary, the basement and overflowing out doors. Lunch was served after both services as well as before the evening service. Now on to the Centennial in 1983.

In 1959 the managers were directed by the congregation to place a sign in front of the church and at the corner to direct visitors to our church. (strangers often missed Brooksdale)

In June 1960 Rev. C. W. DeWitt Cosens retired after 45 years in the ministry. Rev. J.R. Dickinson and his wife came to us and ministered for 2 years.

Our church contributed \$1,400.00 towards Westminster College, the new United Church Residence in London at Western University.

During this time we also changed from afternoon worship services to 9:30 worship beginning the 3rd Sunday in May to the end of October and then returned to afternoon services during the winter months.

In May of 1960 the men and boys of the congregation planted 4000 little evergreen trees on the clergy farm.

In 1961 a Building Fund for church washrooms was started from money earned at the Booth on July 1st in Embro. They were completed in 1965.

The year 1962 was the amalgamation of the W.A. and the W.M.S. and the formation of the United Church Women (U.C.W.) Mrs. Ruth Rand was the first president. Their first project was tiling the basement floor. It was a joy to our eyes and a comfort to our feet.

Rev. Austin G. Gay was called to be our minister. The induction service was held at Brooksdale.

Mrs. Gay was a sincere worker along with her husband and often came to Brooksdale with him.

In 1963 the choir was offered black gowns from Central



United Church, Stratford for the fee of \$1.00 per gown. These made us feel more like a choir. Rev. Gay started a Hi-C group for young people. Two ladies were to be appointed by the U.C.W. to the Board of Managers. These were to be the president and 1 other member.

Brooksdale also accepted to pay 34% of the salary and any other joint bills with Kintore.

It was also agreed that church worship be at 9:30 followed by Sunday School at 10:30 the year around.

In September of 1964 the New United Church Sunday School curriculum was introduced into our classes. Books and teachers materials were purchased. It was used for several years.

In December of the same year the house on the clergy, that had been condemned, was demolished.

On July 18, 1965, we had a special, "Archie MacDonald Sunday". Archie MacDonald had served as church elder for 50 years. He had also been Sunday School Superintendent for several years. Through the years, he had been most faithful and always got through to church regardless of the weather and road conditions, often walking the distance, when no other way was possible. He was one year older than the church. Rev. Herbert Boyd returned for the special service and presented Archie with a testimonial scroll for 50 years as elder of Brooksdale Church. He was made an Honourary Member of the Session. He died on May 17, 1969 at the age of 87.

At the Annual meeting in 1966 the session presented the procedure of appointment of session members to St. Andrew's United Church in 1967. One member to retire each year and a successor be appointed from the congregation.

In June of 1966 Rev. Austin Gay retired from the ministry and he and his wife moved to Thamesford.

Rev. Clyde G. Taylor was called from Hinton, Alberta to come to Kintore and Brooksdale. He was a native of Newfoundland and a young man, whom we hoped would increase the interest of young couples in our congregation to the life and work of the church. His wife Shirley was keenly interested in music. They had 2 sons both born while they were in Kintore.

1967 was Centennial year for our country, with many celebrations. On July 2, 1967 all five churches in West Zorra joined together in a Centennial Church Service in Knox United Church, Embro.

Our usual church anniversary held in June was held the 4th Sunday in October in the afternoon.

Christmas Sunday 1967 had special organ music, as we had been given the electric organ for use in our church from Kintore. The organ gave a special atmosphere to our worship service thereafter.

In 1968 the Board of Managers would be henceforth known as the Board of Stewards.

The church roof was painted for \$110.00 and \$100.00 was given to the Nigeria-Biafra Relief through the United Church of Canada.

At the Annual Meeting on February 4, 1969, the clerk of session Adam Green brought to attention the fact that in 1916 in the old minute book, a motion had been made to erect a tombstone in memory of the late John Bagrie, who was responsible for such things as the pulpit in our church and a desk in the Sunday School. This had not been attended to and Adam Green and Allan Innes were a committee in charge to purchase a marker not exceeding \$200.00. In 1969 a memorial stone was erected in North Embro Cemetery to mark the burial place of John Bagrie. Cost \$170.00.

The United Church Observer was subscribed to under the Every Family Plan. The church was painted in 1969 for \$258.73.

Rev. Clyde Taylor resigned in 1969 and accepted a call to Thessalon where he is still ministering.

The Hi-C group placed 2 brass jardinières in the church sanctuary for flowers on the stands.

At London Conference, held in Windsor in May 1969, Elizabeth Chapman was ordained as a minister of the United Church. At the same time she accepted a call to minister at Kintore and Brooksdale. Along with her husband Douglas who was also a minister and their 3 children they came to Kintore. She grew up on a farm in Elgin and taught school before graduating from Emmanuel College with her husband Douglas. She had chosen not to be ordained because of her family. Together they served 1 year in the Peace River District, 11 years at North Gower, Ottawa and 1 year studying in Indiana. They had written some of our senior Sunday School Quarterlies. Rev. Douglas Chapman served the adjoining charges of Brown's Wellburn and North Nissouri. We enjoyed the interchange of this team ministry of 5 charges. Also as a woman Rev. M. Elizabeth Chapman endeared herself to our congregation through her understanding and friendliness to people in their day to day problems. The Chapmans served for 8 years here, accepting a call to Kent County in 1977.

In 1970 a silver pater was given to the communion set by elder Emerson Symons.

In 1971 the July 1st booth was dropped in Embro. A Special Projects Committee was appointed to suggest distribution of Farm Funds over and above \$2,000.00 that was to remain in the farm account.



**Over the years these are some of the projects.**

- † In April of 1971 this church adopted 2 foster children. Lola of Equador and Genen of Columbia. We have continued to support these same 2 children until 1983 when Lola entered nursing and we were given a child from Africa. Letters have been exchanged over the years between adults and children of the Sunday School.
- † In 1971 the church sanctuary was painted and red carpet on the aisles. \$1,600.00.
- † Mrs. Oliver Stephens home for Retarded Children in Woodstock. \$500.00.
- † In October of 1971 a set of New Red Hymnals was purchased for the choir. Later they were purchased for the entire congregation.
- † In 1973 a new Baldwin Organ cost \$2,250.00.
- † 1974 drainage on the clergy cost \$4,588.00.
- † 1976 Halfway House Woodstock \$2,000.00.  
Emmanuel College \$200.00.  
Woodingford Lodge \$200.00.
- † In 1979 the sum of \$1,000.00 was given in support of a Laotian family from Vietnam and sponsored by the Embro Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Dennis Turvey also helped the family with the English Language.
- † 1979 we gave \$4,000.00 to the Tornado Relief Fund in Oxford.
- † In 1980 a Lesley speaker for the organ was purchased \$1,600.00.  
Women's Emergency Home Woodstock \$440.00.  
Camp Bimini \$100.00.  
Telecare Woodstock \$116.00.
- † In 1981 donations were given to:
- Cerebral Palsey Telethon in London \$2,000.00.
  - Sunday School Carpet
  - Italian Earthquake
  - Ronald McDonald House
  - Camp Bimini
  - Sunday School
  - Special Telephone for Lawrence Munro
  - Mission and Service Fund of our United Church

In 1972 the session recommended that elders be elected every 2 years. The 5 elders would remain for 10 years.

On May 27, 1973 the U.C.W. presented a pair of brass candlesticks to be placed on the communion table, from Mrs Hansford in memory of her daughter Jean Hansford.

On December 16, 1973 a new Baldwin Organ was dedicated and presented to the church on behalf of the congregation by the Clerk of Session Newton Bean. Mr. Arthur Hannahan, St. Catherines was the guest organist and gave a delightful and beautiful presentation on the new organ.

On November 25, 1973 all the churches of West Zorra and Embro sent members out to visit every home. The purpose of the visitation was to greet residents in the name of the church, to present them with a copy of 'Good News for Modern Man' and to encourage them to attend the church of their faith. The visitors were well received and we of Brooksdale church believed it to be a worthwhile undertaking.

At the Annual Meeting in 1974 a coloured portrait of Rev. Elizabeth Chapman was added to our picture gallery.

Auditors were to be called Examiners from now on.

Newton Bean expressed thanks to Helen & Roy Pielt for their services to this congregation as Secretary-Treasurers for the past 25 years. These offices would now be separated. Recording secretary would be Margaret Fraser and treasurer Robert McRoberts.

On June 28, 1974 a large Bible and Oak Lectern were dedicated in memory of Netta Gibb. The well illustrated Bible was given by Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kirchgessner, the lectern by the Gibb family, sister and brother.

The 50th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada was celebrated June 15, 1975.

As a special project for this year the stewards got estimates for building a room over the kitchen. To help raise money for this project the church held an auction sale in Embro of church tables, chairs, old artifacts, etc. Stack tables and chairs had been purchased for use in the Sunday School previous to this. This building was never started.

In 1977 the Annual Meeting was held at Kintore Manse. Rev. Elizabeth Chapman resigned and a farewell evening was held June 19th, when she was presented with a large portrait of herself by the congregation and a quilt made by the U.C.W. ladies.

On the first Sunday of Advent in November of 1977, Mrs. Annelies Shaerer and her family, the Albert Rutherford family and the Brooksdale Sunday School placed a candelabrum on the



communion table in memory of Ian Rutherford. This candelabrum is always used during the Advent Season in preparation for Christmas.

Rev. Douglas Markle, a teacher at Fanshawe College came in July 1977 as an interim minister for 1 year. During the winter and spring months he held a Communicants Class with the young people of the congregation. On June 11, 1978 there were 15 communicants spoke their vows at this service. The same communicants class dedicated a Bible Book Marker for the Bible on the Lectern in memory of Ian Rutherford.

In 1978 Brooksdale was granted an 11 oclock service the first Sunday of each month. The same year we began to have our annual meetings in February, following the worship service including a pot luck dinner.

In July 1978 Rev. Gwyn Tucker and family accepted a call to minister at Kintore and Brooksdale. The induction service was held at Brooksdale. He was of Welsh background and gave sermons that set the people thinking. He had a keen interest in missions. During his ministry we purchased 32 copies of 'Psalms Now' for the church.

In 1979 a beautiful handcrafted kneeling bench to be used at the altar for weddings and confirmation was given by elders Angus Green and Roy Youngs.

New red choir gowns with gold and cream reversible collars were purchased for the choir members.

In April of 1981 Russell Tousaw became a licenced lay speaker.

In June of 1981 we had a farewell evening for Rev. Gwyn Tucker and family. He had accepted a call to Camlachie near Sarnia. His last Sunday was at Happy Hills when Kintore and Brooksdale held their Annual church and communion service together.

In August of 1981 Pastor Ross Hargreaves and his wife Coyla came to Kintore and Brooksdale. They were formerly of Oxford County.

We have an active U.C.W. organization supporting M. & S., catering to weddings and church meals and meeting regularly each month to Study and Witness through Fellowship and Service.

The Sunday School reaches out to all children in the community, teaching children from Nursery to Intermediates. They support M.&S. and fill the church at White Gift Service followed by the annual turkey dinner. There are 40 children enrolled in 1983.

Music is always an inspiring part of every worship service and

our choir leaders and organists and choir members have always been most faithful over the years.

Our church here at Brooksdale is still a community gathering place. Women's Institute meetings are held here, as well as bridal showers for girls in the community. A Fitness Group of young women and preschoolers met here during the winter of 1983

At the Annual Meeting in 1982 a Renovation committee was named to investigate a change to the front of the church sanctuary. A consulting firm named Chapelstone from Orangeville was called in and an architectural designer Ray Mercer presented his design to the congregation. After several meetings the committee was given the authority to proceed with extensive renovations to our church sanctuary. The renovations began in March of 1983 under the guidance of a foreman from Chapelstones namely Steve Shelley. Along with many helping hands of our congregation, the renovations were finally completed for the Rededication service on May 29, 1983.

This was a very impressive service as we viewed the beautiful interior of our church and beheld the beautiful lighted cross at the front. Rev. Steve Shelley who had laboured many weeks to bring us to this special service delivered the sermon, 'Take Heed, How You Build'. The choir sang 'Bless This House'.

Red geraniums were placed in the sanctuary by the Sunday School. Each family was given a geranium to take home and nurture, as a memory of this very special day in the life of our church.

A pulpit lamp was given in memory of Ray and Maude Pielt by their family. A church register was placed in the front entrance by Mel and Bev Matheson.

The winter of 1983 was a very open and mild winter. During one such week in March, 80 evergreen spruce trees were dug, put in baskets and transported from the tree plantation of John Baker at Happy Hills, to be planted in three rows south and west of the church to serve as an excellent windbreak and to beautify the grounds of our century old church at Brooksdale. Five hard maple trees were also planted to extend the east row of maples to the road. These maples came from the Turvey family woods.

We are grateful to everyone for all their many hours of loving labour along with trucks, tractors and other heavy equipment, gifts of money needed to complete renovations and landscaping of our century old church and grounds here at Brooksdale.

The doors to our church are always open for any to enter and wait upon the Lord. May the Spirit divine attend their prayers and may this church be Thy home.



Over a period of 100 years the following elders have been elected by the congregation to assist the minister in the spiritual life and growth of the church.

James Innes	1892-1896	
George Manson	1892-1916 - Clerk	1892-1916
George Smith	1896-1899	
Alex McDonald	1902-1912	
Ephraim Barker	1902-1906	
D.A. McLeod	1910-1914	
Andrew Riddle	1910-1915	
John Whaley	1915-1938 - Clerk	1916-1938
George I. Green	1915-1944	
Archie McDonald	1915-1965 (He was made honourary elder)	
Harvey Thomson	1939-1966 - Clerk	1957-1965
Ray S. Piett	1939-1957 - Clerk	1940-1957
Russell Youngs	1950-1967	
Adam Green	1950-1969 - Clerk	1966-1969
Charles Rand	1957-1970 - Clerk	1969-1970
Roy Piett	1966-1971 - Clerk	1970-1971
John Turvey	1967-1972 - Clerk	1971-1972
Emerson Symons	1968-1973	
Newton Bean	1969-1974 - Clerk	1972-1974
John MacLeod	1970-1978 - Clerk	1974-1978
Bill Green	1971-1980 - Clerk	1978-1980
Angus Green	1972-1982 - Clerk	1980-1982
Russell Tousaw	1974- - Clerk	1982-
John Baker	1976-	
Roy Youngs	1978-	
Bob Bean	1980-	
Helen Piett	1982-	

### ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, BROOKSDALE 1983

Minister	- Pastor Ross Hargreaves
Session	- Russell Tousaw, John Baker, Roy Youngs, Bob Bean, Helen Piett.
Stewards	- Bill Matheson (chairman) Robert McRoberts (secretary) Gary Zilke, Tom Matheson, Dennis Turvey, Peter Rutherford, Vida Mae Innes, Edith Bean.
Trustees for Clergy	- John Innes, John Turvey (secretary), Newton Bean (chairman)
Recording Secretary	- Elinor Rutherford
Treasurer	- Vida Mae Innes
Examiners	- Helen Piett, Bill Green
Organist & Choir Leader	- Beth Tousaw, Marlene Matheson.
Librarian	- Sue Butt.
Sunday School Superintendent	- Helen Piett
Secretary-Treasurer	- Helen Turvey
Teachers	- Kindergarten -Eileen Hart and Carol Turvey, Primary -Sue Butt, Junior -Elinor Rutherford, Intermediate -Beverley A. Matheson, Asst. Teachers -Shirley Zilke, Beverley C. Matheson, Marlene Matheson, Brenda Sim.
Delegate to Presbytery	- Bill Green, Roy Youngs
Delegate to Conference	- Angus Green
Special Projects Committee	U.C.W. Executive
Beverley A. Matheson	Past President - Edith Bean
Russell Tousaw	President - Vida Mae Innes
Dennis Turvey	Secretary - Margaret Green
	Treasurer - Anna Beryl Bean

Renovation Committee 1982-1983  
 Nancy Matheson - congregation  
 Marlene Matheson- U.C.W.  
 Bev. Matheson - Special Projects  
 Russell Tousaw - Session  
 Bob Green - Stewards



**100th Anniversary Committee June 26th, 1983**

Chairman Roy Youngs Secretary Elinor Rutherford

Worship Committee  
 Pastor Ross Hargreaves  
 Bob Bean (Convenor)  
 Russell Tousaw  
 John Baker  
 Roy Youngs  
 Helen Piett

Invitation Committee  
 Vida Mae Innes  
 Elinor Rutherford  
 Eileen Hart  
 Christine Piett

Music Committee  
 Beth Tousaw  
 Sue Butt

Renovation Committee  
 Russell Tousaw  
 Robert McRoberts

History Committee  
 Helen Piett  
 Marlene Matheson  
 Roy Youngs

Photography  
 Roy Youngs

Registration  
 Sunday School  
 (Intermediate Class)

Landscaping Committee  
 John Baker  
 Roy Piett  
 Newton Bean  
 John Innes  
 John Turvey

Lunch - U.C.W.  
 Beverley C. Matheson  
 Edith Bean  
 Margaret Green  
 Christine Piett  
 Anna Beryl Bean

Worship Committee  
 Pastor Ross Hargreaves  
 Bob Bean

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, BROOKSDALE 1983**

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 Session - Russell Tousaw, John Baker, Roy Youngs, Bob Bean, Helen Piett.  
 Stewards - Bill Matheson (chairman) Robert McRoberts (secretary) Gary Zilke, Tom Matheson, Dennis Turvey, Peter Rutherford, Vida Mae Innes, Edith Bean.  
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 Recording Secretary - Elinor Rutherford  
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 Organist & Choir Leader - Beth Tousaw, Marlene Matheson.  
 Librarian - Sue Butt.  
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 Delegate to Conference - Angus Green  
 Special Projects Committee U.C.W. Executive  
 Beverley A. Matheson Past President - Edith Bean  
 Russell Tousaw President - Vida Mae Innes  
 Dennis Turvey Secretary - Margaret Green  
 Treasurer - Anna Beryl Bean

Renovation Committee 1982-1983  
 Nancy Matheson - congregation  
 Marlene Matheson- U.C.W.  
 Bev. Matheson - Special Projects  
 Russell Tousaw - Session  
 Bob Green - Stewards



**100th Anniversary Committee June 26th, 1983**

Chairman      Roy Youngs      Secretary      Elinor Rutherford

Worship Committee  
 Pastor Ross Hargreaves  
 Bob Bean (Convenor)  
 Russell Tousaw  
 John Baker  
 Roy Youngs  
 Helen Piett

Invitation Committee  
 Vida Mae Innes  
 Elinor Rutherford  
 Eileen Hart  
 Christine Piett

Music Committee  
 Beth Tousaw  
 Sue Butt

Renovation Committee  
 Russell Tousaw  
 Robert McRoberts

History Committee  
 Helen Piett  
 Marlene Matheson  
 Roy Youngs

Photography  
 Roy Youngs

Registration  
 Sunday School  
 (Intermediate Class)

Landscaping Committee  
 John Baker  
 Roy Piett  
 Newton Bean  
 John Innes  
 John Turvey

Lunch - U.C.W.  
 Beverley C. Matheson  
 Edith Bean  
 Margaret Green  
 Christine Piett  
 Anna Beryl Bean

Worship Committee  
 Pastor Ross Hargreaves  
 Bob Bean

Records date back to 1893 in our Register of Baptisms.

We wish to pay a special tribute to one of our church members who has always attended this church.

Mary Jean Thompson born January 25, 1906 daughter of William Thompson and Harriet E. O'Doud of the third line of West Zorra was baptised October 3, 1906 by Rev. S.M. Whaley in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Brooksdale.

Jean attended Sunday School here and began teaching a class at the age of fifteen. She continued to teach for over forty years and was secretary-treasurer and librarian until retirement in 1972.

She married a fellow church member Emerson Symons on June 24, 1939. They were married by Dr. M. W. Goodrich at the manse in Embro.

She was an active member of the W.M.S. and the Ladies Aid, The Women's Association and is still active in the U.C.W.

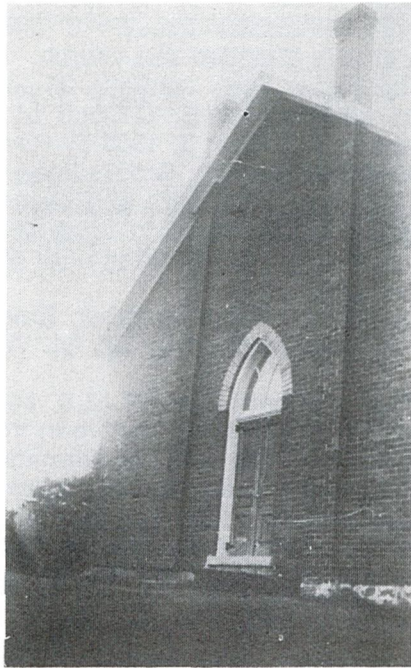
She has seen many changes and transformations in our church over the past seventy-seven years and has always encouraged the young children and married couples in any of their aspirations. Her cheery personality and sincere Christian faith truly makes her a solid pillar of our church here at Brooksdale.

We feel a just pride and deep respect for our church as the centre of the spiritual blessings to those in the surrounding countryside of fine farms. Its situation in the beautiful valley with hills rising on all sides is pleasing to the eye.

Strangers have paused in admiration and awe when travelling through as suddenly they are confronted with an expansive view over many miles of the finest scenery.

We have now reached the century mark. The past years have brought many changes in this area. Many consecrated workers have given their witness here and then passed on; some to service in other communities, and some to the higher service above. We owe them all a debt of gratitude for they laboured well, laying foundations of enduring worth upon which we may build. Those who continue to carry on the work to-day deserve great credit for their faithfulness and zeal. Above all, we give God thanks for His continuing mercies.

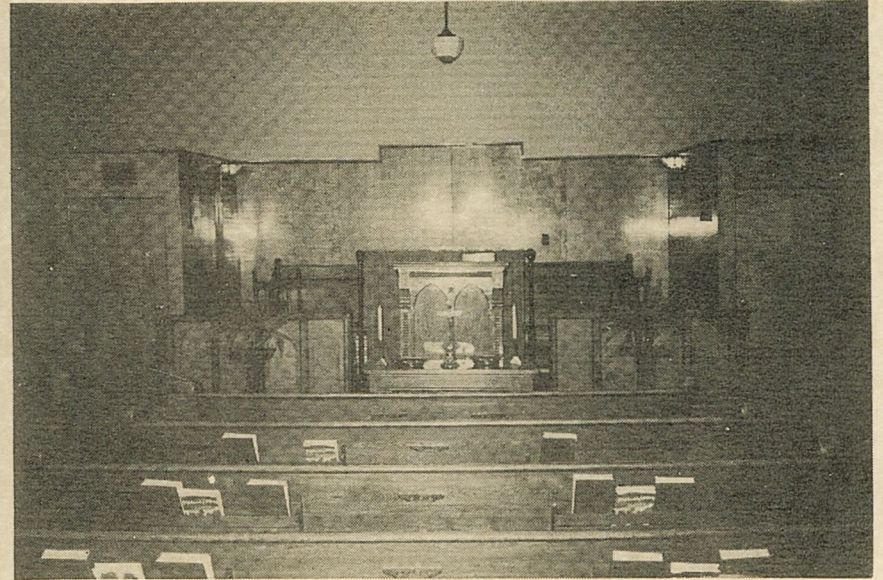




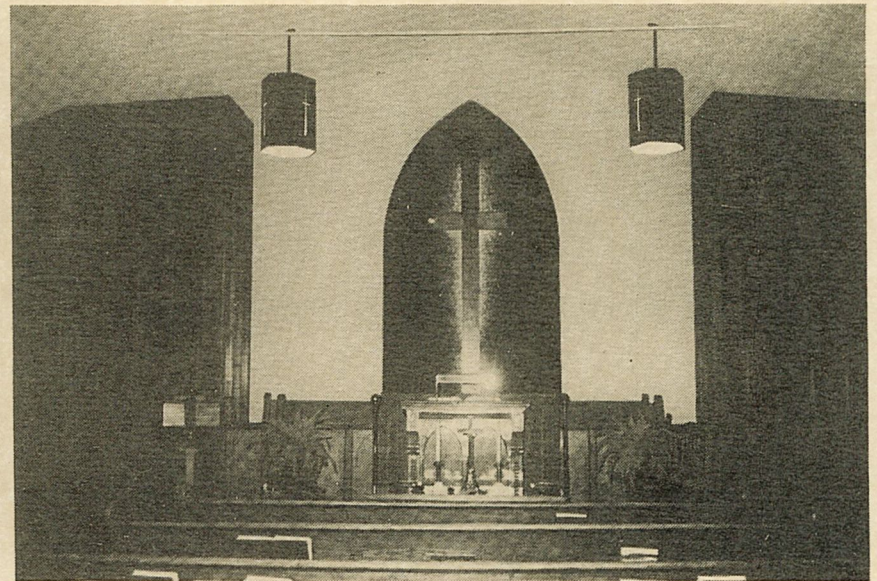
**Front Door to the South of Church  
1883-1949**



**1949 Renovations  
Front Door at North End  
24**



**Church Interior  
1949**



**Church Interior  
1983**





PIRAF PHOTO  
KITCHENER ONT.

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, BROOKSDALE, ONT.

JUNE 22, 1958  
75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY