

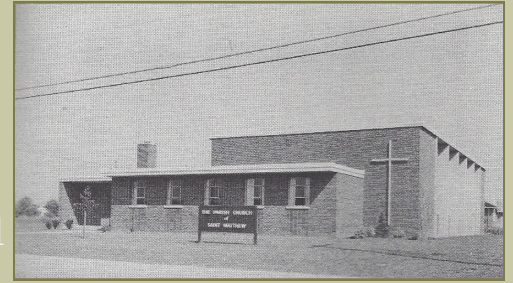


NEWSLETTER
OF
ST MATTHEW'S
ANGLICAN
CHURCH

1600 NORFOLK ST.
WINDSOR, ONTARIO N9E 1H5

The Journey

At St. Matthew's Church



VOLUME III ISSUE 4 60TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

"We are called to share God's love as we welcome
and care for our community"

A Christian Anniversary Poem

**A time to reflect
and note what's gone by,
to think of the future
to reach for the sky;
a time to hold dear
and encourage each other,
we've made it this far
and not without bother...**

**But never despair,
just know that whatever
occurs in our lives here
God's love is FOREVER**

By Anne Banks



DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER



Welcome to The Parish Church of St. Matthew's 60th Anniversary Celebration!



**Also celebrating with Mike Ricketts
for his wonderful music ministry to us over the past 40 years**

Now, just like back then, there are so many treasured memories to share...



The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron
The Anglican Church of Canada

*"Building up the body of Christ and preparing God's people to live their Mission."
Huron Mission Statement*

The Right Reverend Robert F. Bennett
Bishop of Huron

The Right Reverend Terrance A. Dance
Bishop of Norfolk

August 2015

The Rev'd Andreas Thiel - Rector
And the Community of St. Matthew's, Windsor

Dear Friends:

We write this letter of congratulations to you as a community of Christ's followers, in recognition of your 60th Anniversary celebrations this September. God has been good to you over these past sixty years. We express thanks for the many gifts we have received in the Diocese of Huron and in particular, the gift of the parish family of St. Matthew's, Windsor.

It is good to share in your ministry as your bishops and we pray that God will continue to bless us all and empower us continually with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live the life God has given to us.

May God continue to bless you and uphold you with love, peace and joy.

Yours in Christian Faith,

With every blessing,

The Right Reverend Robert F. Bennett
Bishop of Huron

The Right Reverend Terry A. Dance
Bishop of Norfolk

Huron Church House

190 Queen's Avenue, London, Ontario N6A 6H7

Phone: (519) 434-6893 or 1-800-919-1115 (ON) Fax: (519) 673-4151 E-mail: bishops@huron.anglican.ca

Message from Our Rector

Our St. Matthew's family has good reason to celebrate this year: 60 years of living into our Christian faith, and 40 years of pastoral musical leadership from Mike Ricketts. For these blessings, we can only say "Thanks be to God"!

60th anniversaries are known as diamond celebrations, and this calls to mind the description of someone as being "a diamond in the rough." Now, this term usually has negative connotations, but according to the Urban Dictionary, "*The phrase is metaphorical and relates to the fact that naturally occurring diamonds are quite ordinary at first glance, and that their true beauty as jewels is only realized through the cutting and polishing process.*" How true is that of us, here at St. Matthew's? Outwardly, I think we'd all agree that we look quite ordinary. But isn't it also true that inwardly, God is actively present among us, engaged in a great and wondrous "polishing process" to bring out our "true beauty"? We are polished in our common life together... in our commitment to serving God and the world... and in our quiet understanding that it is God alone who strengthens us in our ministry, and prospers us in our efforts.

**May God continue to polish us and perfect us, and may this special family of faith
– St. Matthew's – always shine with God's joy and love.**

Andreas

The Parish Church of St. Matthew

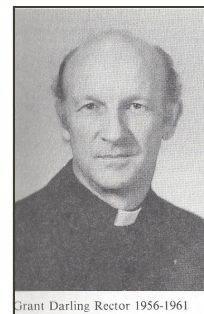
In the Beginning...

The Church at Glenwood When World War II ended, the Government of Canada obtained many tracts of land to be developed into housing communities for war veterans. One of these tracts included the land surrounding the Roseland Golf course, in the then Township of Sandwich West. On November 20, 1949, Bishop George N. Luxton issued a Certificate of Organization establishing the Parish of St. James church, Roseland. The parish grew so rapidly that in 1954, their rector, The Rev'd W.K. Morrison was granted permission to start a branch Anglican Sunday School at Glenwood Public School. This was the actual conception of St. Matthew's Parish. **On March 20 1955, Mothering Sunday, the first service of worship was conducted at 9:30am with attendance of 125** with the school director, Mr. Fitch, in charge of the Service, and The Rev'd W.K. Morrison as preacher. It was probably difficult for Father Morrison to conduct the services and preach the sermon from the centre of the long narrow hall with some of the congregation on the right and some on the left, and the choir recessed directly behind. Also, the congregation most likely noticed the posters made by the students, perhaps their own children, attached to the walls, particularly to the end wall, for at that time there was only the front of the school, all the rest added later.

A New Parish Church Due to the increased enrolment at Glenwood and the overcrowded conditions at St. James, Mr. Morrison and Bishop Luxton agreed for a second location for Anglican worship to be established. At that time a Windsor Electrical Contractor, Mr. Zaleney was in the process of developing the land between Norfolk St. and the Grand Marais drain and, in order to help his financing of the project, he agreed to sell lots on the west side of Glenwood running north from Norfolk Ave. This property comprised almost one acre, and was serviced by roads and water mains on Norfolk and Glenwood. The committee recommended its purchase for \$5,000.00 to which Bishop Luxton happily agreed.

With growth of the Sunday school to 140 students, and the purchase of property for a new church site, it was agreed that church services should also be started; the first regular church service was conducted on December 4.

On February 12, 1956, after the church service, a meeting was convened to organize a new parish, which was to be a second point parish with St. James, with Mr. Morrison as the incumbent, but due to Father Morrison's health issues, the Bishop decided to establish two separate parishes. The Diocese purchased a Rectory on Morris Dr. and on June 6, 1956 the appointed rector, The Rev'd Grant Darling, arrived to take over his new charge.



The Parish Church of St. Matthew The name of the church was chosen by ballot on June 17, 1956 from several names suggested by the congregation after a morning service. Names put forward were: St. Margaret's, St. Matthew's, St. Michael and All Angels, St. John the Baptist and St. Chad's. The name St. Matthew received the most votes and so **The Parish Church of St. Matthew** came into being. By this time the St. Margaret's W.A. (women to work together for the new parish), a B.A.C. (Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen) and an A.Y.P.A. (Anglican Young People's Association) had been formed. Formal permission was received from Sandwich West School Board for the continued use of Glenwood School. Rental fee of \$3.00 plus janitorial fees per Sunday.

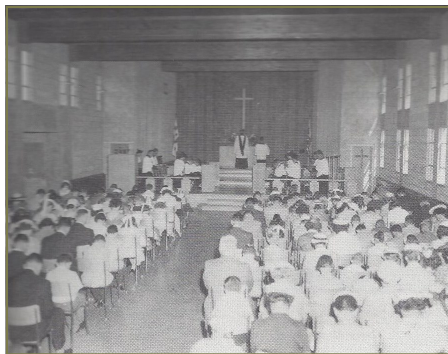


On October 28, 1956 a sod turning ceremony was held on the land acquired with Archdeacon K. Bolton turning the first sod. The first confirmation service for St. Matthew's was held at St. John's, Sandwich on December 16, 1956. Christmas services that year were held at Southwood school's Gymnasium and Paulin Memorial church. The first annual vestry meeting was held on January 20, 1957.

Continue on next page...

The foundation stone was laid on Tuesday August 20, 1957 by Suffragan Bishop William A. Townshend and attended by several ministers: Mr. Davies, Mr. Jaggs, Mr. Rowles, Father Harding from St. James, as well as Mr. A. K. Finnie (Rector's warden), Mr. E. R. Jones (people's warden) and most of the congregation. The first service in the new Parish Hall was held on November 24, 1957.

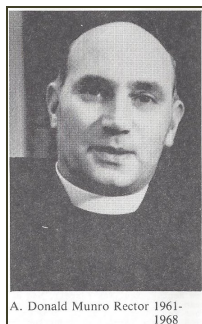
On Sunday December 9, 1957 Bishop Luxton dedicated the Parish Hall and consecrated the Sacred Vessels and Ornaments.



The service of Confirmation was held on Dec. 15, 1957; we were able to hold Christmas Services for the first time in the new Parish Hall. Our congregation had grown from a mere handful to almost 200 families, and continued to grow as the community developed and many families moved into the area. By this time a Chancel Guild had been formed. The three women's groups, B.A.C., and A.Y.P.A. all worked very hard to help raise funds, provide various equipment and furnish the kitchen. This made possible a number of functions held in the hall including the service of induction for The Rev'd Grant Darling on January 27, 1958. Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, and Guides were all well represented by St Matthew's and each year, we had a large class of confirmation candidates.

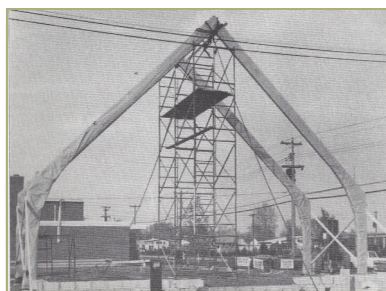
A House of God

Until January 1961, under The Rev'd Grant Darling's youthful and vigorous leadership, St. Matthew's developed from an off-shoot mission of St. James' to a well-established Parish Church. In March of that year, The Rev'd A. Donald Munro came to St. Matthew's as its second rector, bringing a wealth of experience and a stable, almost fatherly, presence. Church activities flourished and the congregation continued to grow.

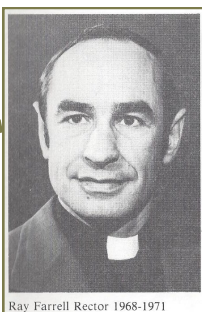


A. Donald Munro Rector 1961-1968

By 1964, the mortgage on the church hall had been paid off. A new program for building a church and a rectory, with Ken Heath's chairmanship, was then initiated. Massey court (then a field) was being opened for development and a lot was purchased to build a rectory adjacent to the church. An excellent pledge committee led by John Jemison conducted a canvassing program, originally seeking three-year pledges; this campaign had to be extended to five years, due to extreme price increases during the project.



The old rectory on Morris Ave. was sold, and the new one was partially financed with these funds, and finished in 1966. The church building was completed in February of 1967, and the service of dedication was held on Friday March 3, 1967. Officiating was The Rt. Rev'd G.N. Luxton, Bishop of Huron, assisted by The Rt. Rev'd Carmen J. Queen, Bishop of St. Clair and Suffragan Bishop of Huron, and The Rev'd A.D. Munro. Father Munro left in June 1968; his health had rapidly deteriorated during the past year, and he had been transferred to a smaller parish in Wheatley; sadly, he passed away before being able to celebrate his first service there. The Rev'd A.D. Munro was buried from St. Matthew's in the afternoon of June 20, 1968. As our Parish Hall could be credited to father Darling, so our church stands as a memorial to the late Rev'd A.D. Munro.



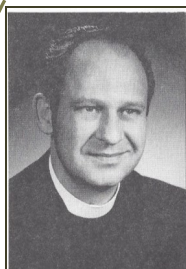
Ray Farrell Rector 1968-1971

A Time of Change

Although framed by great economic stress, The Rev'd Ray Farrell's ministry from 1968 until 1971 marked a time of renewal: a younger family in the rectory, a new emphasis on stewardship and, probably his greatest contribution, the introduction of modern liturgy to St. Matthew's. A "folk mass" format was introduced at a 9:30 am service, with a more traditional service offered at 11:00 am.

Continue on next page...

Silver Anniversary...



Wm. Millman Rector 1971-1993

Starting in 1971, some “firsts” during The Rev’d Bill Millman’s term include a Youth Group with up to 30 members at some point, and The Art Exhibits and Sales, a series of successful shows featuring the work of local artists. The first Art show in 1972 raised \$280 to begin the Pave-the-Parking-Lot Fund, and continued on a yearly basis until 1979, later to be re-instated by the Garswood family in 1982. At the diocesan level, St. Matthew’s hosted the first Diocesan Regional Children’s Festival. The “Soup Suppers” began in 1977 to support the PWRDF, and our association with Hiatus House was established in 1978. **St. Matthew’s turned 25 shortly afterwards.** The Rev’d Bill Millman restored a more traditional service at St. Matthew’s, and was always proactive in his leadership. Parishioners still remember how he would visit and aid their families when needed. Father Millman remained as our rector until his retirement in 1993.

How We Got Here

by The Rev’d Cathy MacKendrick

The MacKendrick two arrived in Windsor July 1, 1971. Six weeks later, just after lunch, a knock came on our door. There stood The Rev’d Bill Millman to welcome us. I invited him in and we had a brief chat. He told us where the church was. Kim told him that his father had sung in the St. Jude’s choir, Oakville, for 35 years and he thought he might enjoy that “some day” too. Together Bill and I said “well, now is your chance”. No pressure on the poor guy! For me it was a good way to get back to church after 15 years and to get to know some folks. So the first Thursday after Labour Day, Kim went to the church for choir practice, and perhaps been to the church a couple of times before then. How did Bill know about us? The Welcome Wagon lady lived down the street from us and was a member of the congregation. Connections, connections.

Connection is a great word for St. Matthew’s family. Being a part of this family strengthens and empowers our connection with God, makes us part of the wider community of South Windsor, gives us the extended family that neither Kim nor I have as “onlys”, and strengthens our own family with our sons Kenneth and Andrew who were baptised here, sang in the boys choir, and served at the altar. St. Matthew’s truly is our second family and we are blessed.

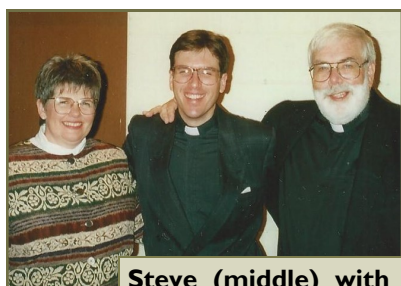


Then Gold...

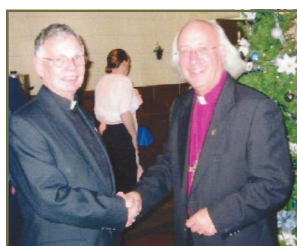
The Rev’d Canon Stephen Bradley Harnadek became our rector in 1993, remaining in this post until transferring to All Saints Anglican Parish in Sarnia/Corunna in 2012. Insisting in being called simply “Steve”, he always emphasized the importance of a church remaining more concerned with God’s will for them than with mundane issues.



In 2005, we celebrated St. Matthew’s 50th Anniversary; the following are words from his message back then: “... Who would have thought that over the past years we would see the ministry of three deacons, a church nurse, and all the various lay pastoral ministries that God has raised up in our midst, like Eucharist ministers and the Marlboro Breakfast Program? As for the future, I think it is best left in the hands of God, since God seems to have done a pretty good job so far! So, we may not know what lies before us, but we know who is leading us there. That is enough and more than enough” and “Hold on to your pew, because God isn’t finished with us yet!”



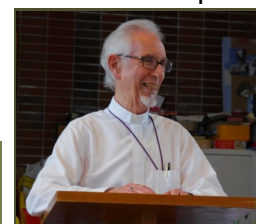
Steve (middle) with The Rev’d Cathy MacKendrick, and The Rev’d John McAvoy, ordained deacons in 1996



The Rev’d Bob Chandler in 2003 shortly after being ordained as deacon (with the then Bishop of Huron, The Rt. Rev’d Bruce Howe)

We were truly blessed to have The Rt. Rev’d Jack Peck serving as interim minister for part of 2012 and 2013.

Thank you, Bishop Jack!

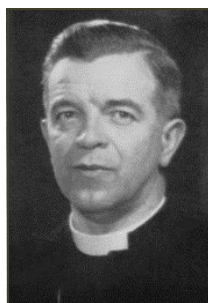


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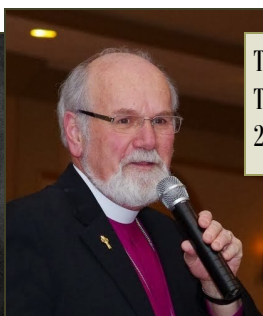
Now ... Diamond!



After a long process in search of a new rector, The Rev'd Andreas Thiel and his wife Anya Laurence-Thiel joined our St. Matthew's family in September of 2013. The congregation was busy renovating the rectory and preparing a warm welcome for them. On Sunday, September 15, 2013, Father Andreas presided our services for the first time, and his Service of Induction was held on November 3, 2013. We have embraced the RENEW initiative proposed by our Diocese; besides the complete renovation of the rectory, the interior walls of the church were refreshed by a new coat of paint, as were the exterior windows and the main doors. **A strong building renovation campaign is underway to renew our space and improve accessibility to the building.** Our narthex was blessed with a framed stained glass window, a needlework rendering of the Last Supper, and a new screen with photo and church information displays. The St. Matthew's banner now adorns the Sanctuary. We re-invented our newsletter and *The Journey's* first issue was distributed in the fall of 2013. These last two years have also marked a period of re-affirmation of some of our practices, modifying of others and learning of new ones. Our new mission statement "We are called to share God's love as we welcome and care for our community" is a reflection of our unchanged values of commitment to God and his people. Last but not least, this year we are celebrating Mike Ricketts' 40th anniversary as our pastoral musician and **St. Matthew's 60th Anniversary!**



The Rt. Rev'd George N. Luxton
Sixth Bishop of Huron 1948-1970



The Rt. Rev'd Robert F. Bennett
Twelfth Bishop of Huron
2009-present

The Rt. Rev'd Terrance A. Dance
Twelfth Suffragan Bishop of Huron
2009-present



The Rt. Rev'd William A. Townshend
First Suffragan Bishop of Huron 1955-1967

Now, just like back then,
so many treasured memories, indeed

Happy 60th Anniversary, St. Matthew's!

Luncheon Celebration

60th Anniversary of Our Parish

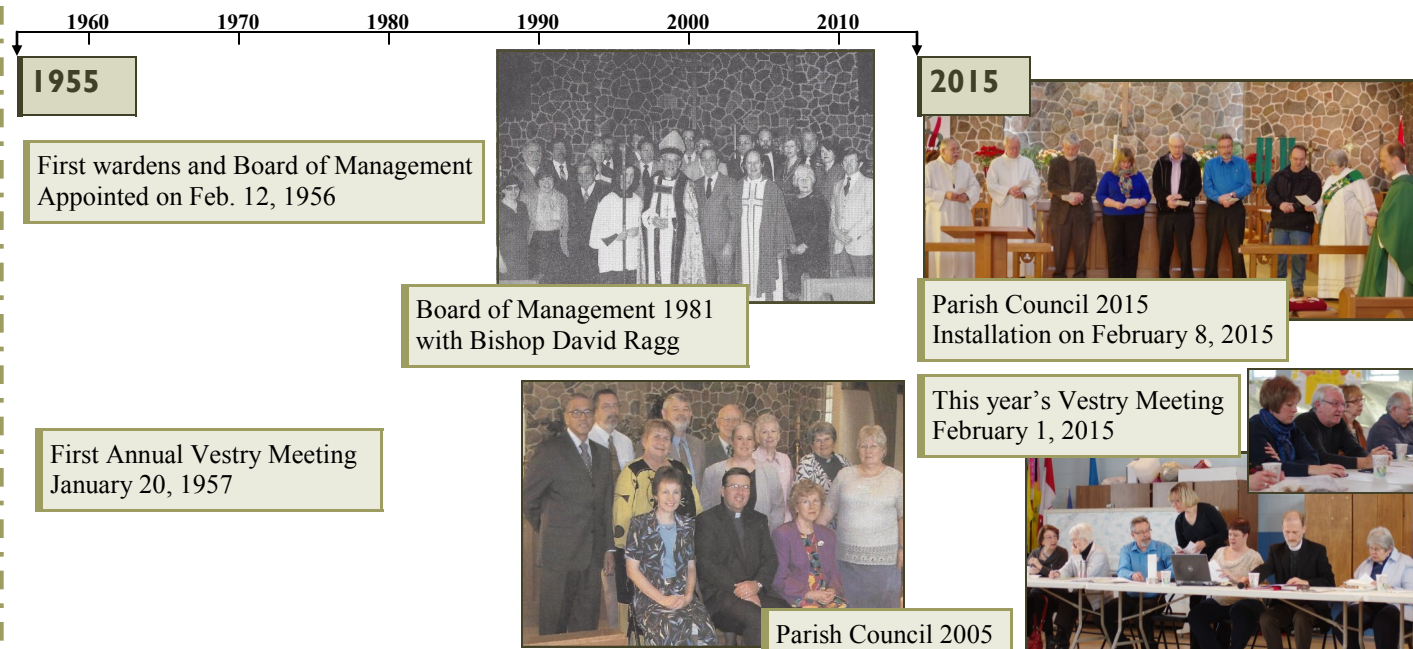
Michael Ricketts' 40th Anniversary with Us

September 27, 2015, following the 10:00 am service

Fully catered lunch in the Parish Hall

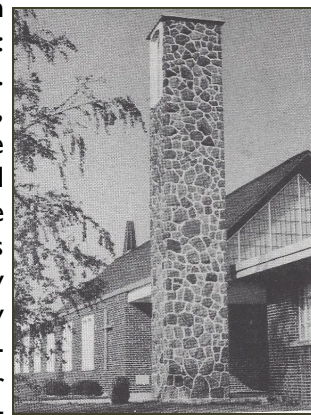
\$15.00 per person; children 6-12 \$5.00; children 5 and under, free

Our Parish Council — A Timeline



THEN —

On November 30, 1964, at a special Vestry meeting with 129 parishioners in attendance at the parish hall, The Rev'd Donald Munro said: "Wherever Anglicans have gone on the face of the Earth, they have built a House of God. The great desire of this Parish is to build a house that is worthy of the worship of God, having both beauty and dignity..." That night, it was resolved to fulfill that dream. The original estimated cost of the project was \$120,000.00; the building committee accepted the challenge of securing \$60,000.00 in cash and/or 3-year pledges, the other 50% to be covered by the Diocese. A year later, the committee had met the challenge, but prices had increased to \$150,000.00. When this estimate was forwarded to the Diocese, they rescinded their approval as the parish was now short of the new estimated cost by \$30,000.00. On December 12, 1965, the congregation decided to assume full responsibility and seek financing with a bank. Once again, the people of St. Matthew's showed their support and commitment with renewed, longer and larger pledges, and with the support of Suffragan Bishop C.J. Queen, the Diocese finally approved the project in February of 1966. The church building was completed in February of 1967, against all odds and after lots of canvassing and fundraising, negotiations with the bank and even a construction worker strike! **During this period of our church history, with our Lord's help and the generosity of our people, we were able to meet our debts as they came due.**



NOW—

St. Matthew's Capital Campaign 2015

Renewing our space and improving our accessibility:

- Re-wiring and new LED lighting
- New carpet and flooring
- New and more inviting handicapped-accessible doors

Envelopes for our Building Renovation Fund are available on the table in the narthex.



**There are many ways to give,
as once again, we commit
ourselves to the stewardship
of our building**

People of St. Matthew's

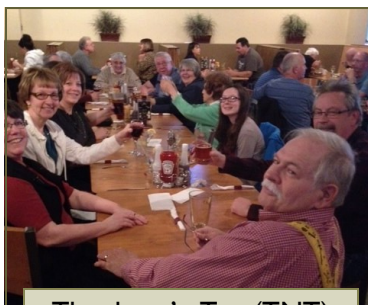
Now and Then ...



Now and Then Cont...



Feeding St. M's: Mind, Body and Spirit



Theology 'n Tap (TNT)
Hard to believe there was none then!

Then: Soup Suppers Now: Soup Luncheons
Supporting the PWRDF since 1977

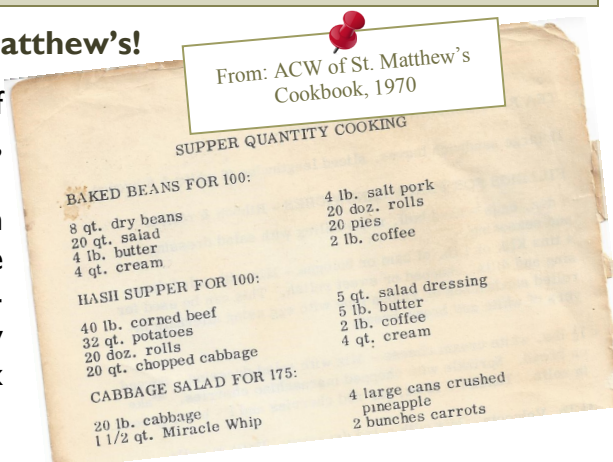


"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me," *Matthew 25:35*

Mmm... food at St. Matthew's!

Undoubtedly one of our best features then, as it still is today.

Just like flavours in our mouth, we have shared sweet and bitter-sweet moments as fellow parishioners over six decades.



How many of you at our potluck suppers have commented upon the delicious "Cheesy Potatoes" and wanted to know how to make them? Wonder no more, for here is this classic recipe, courtesy of Pauline Patterson:

PAULINE'S CHEESY POTATOES

In a large crock pot, cook the following until tender: 2 cups of cubed potatoes, 1 cup of chopped celery, 1 cup of chopped onion, 1/2 cup chopped carrots, 2 cups of water. DO NOT DRAIN. In another pot, melt: 1/4 cup of margarine; slowly add 1/4 cup of flour, stirring constantly; then slowly add 2 cups of milk. Cook until thickened, then blend in 2-3 cups of grated old cheddar. Mix with the cooked vegetables, and season with salt and pepper to taste. ENJOY!

Rev'd Cathy is the coordinator of the Marlboro School Breakfast Program, designed to provide hot breakfast to the students. Volunteers cook breakfast on Monday mornings; others bake muffins or donate money. This year, Shirley Cante brought dessert to the Marlboro Team's "End of the Year BBQ", hosted by the MacKendricks, and now she is sharing this new recipe with us:



SHIRLEY'S CHOCOLATE FUDGE PUDDING CAKE

Mix 1 box of chocolate devil's food cake mix, 1 pkg. instant chocolate pudding mix, 16 oz. sour cream, 1/2 cup of vegetable oil, 4 eggs and 1 cup of water with electric mixer at low speed for about 10 seconds until blended; then beat at medium speed for 2 min. Stir in 6 oz. of chocolate chips. Place in a slow cooker in low for 4 hr. Turn off and let set for 30 min. This delicious, sticky, thick and very chocolaty cake is to be spooned out of the cooker. The addition of ice cream will enhance the celebration of your taste buds! Variation: when stirring the chocolate chips, add a drained can of cherries — a quick fix for Black Forest Cake!



Celebrating Our Roots 1955-2015

A Special Service and Afternoon Tea June 10, 2015

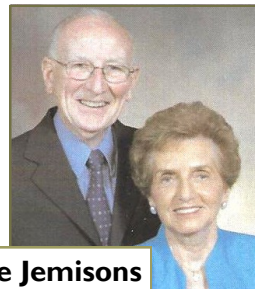
"At Saint Matthew's Church in Windsor any reason to celebrate is a 'must'... most especially when goodies-to-eat are involved and visiting with friends over tea and coffee..... and so our Elders' Tea was born..... a summer celebration in June, something we had never held before..... and then the debate started. Who was an elder? was it at 65 years? or a more revered age?..... the jury was out and then Andreas decided to have a church service beforehand and the solution was apparent..... all could attend, whatever age; for if one was not an elder by years there certainly was a reason to celebrate those who were. The tea was well attended with the fruits of many people's labours on display..... but not for long as all the goodies were scrumptious! There was so much food that many went home with doggie bags and there still was food left over for the following Sunday's hospitality..... 'we should do this again' was the call and so we shall..... Thank you to all who participated. Great fun and food....." Shirley Cantele.



John & Margaret Jemison 1950s



Margaret, gracious hostess 1996



The Jemisons 2005

Many dedicated families have been -and continue to be- instrumental in St. Matthew's growth and milestone achievements; one of them is the Jemison family. John and Margaret Jemison were married in St. Andrew's Church on November 7, 1953; later on, they joined Ascension on University Ave. They moved to their home on Rockwell St. in November of 1955 and soon after that, The Rev'd Grant Darling dropped by and invited them to join his congregation for worship at Glenwood school, then becoming a part of the St. Matthew's family from its conception. Margaret has kindly shared some of her memories of St. Matthew's for this edition. She remembers many families from back then which still sound familiar today: Palin, Snelling, Postovit, Heath, Gall, Grieves, Oxford, Murphy, Garswood, Small, Hannah, Cowley, Clarke, Youngson...and the list goes on; they all prayed and worked together for the church buildings, the outfitting of the kitchen, the paving of the parking lot, and supported the parish and each other through raising taxes, economic crises, ideological differences and, simply put, change. Both John and Margaret have served in many ministries and committees at St. Matthew's, facing a variety of situations. For example, in the 1970s, as lay delegates to Synod along with Dorothy Garswood, they were on their way to London (Ontario) on a foggy night, when they experienced a scary collision with a deer, John behind the wheel of Dorothy's blue Mustang. Other of their ministries: Board of Management, ACW, Warden, Canvassing, coffee set-up EVERY Saturday, not to mention visits to shut-ins and John's uncanny ability to take care of matters promptly, sometimes before anybody's had time to detect any problems! John passed away in July 2010, and the whole congregation mourned with Margaret, son Paul, daughter Beth and the rest of their family; his memorial was held at St. Matthew's. To this day, Margaret is a member of Chancel Guild and hosts their Christmas meeting and dinner every year, and bakes for our functions and sales, as well as the bread we break at our 10:00 am Eucharist.

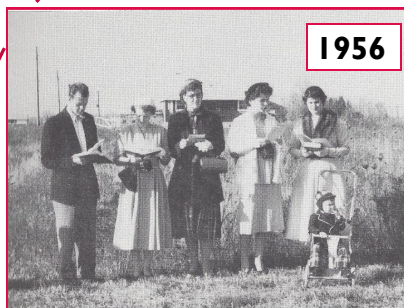
God bless you, Margaret, and thank you for sharing some of your photos and memories today, and your many talents for 60 years.



Every cup tells a story — The St. Matthew's kitchen houses a wonderful collection of mostly donated cups and saucers. If you would like to share a story about any of them, please tell *The Journey*.



Mike Ricketts: 40 Years of Music Ministry at St. Matthew's



1956

In the very early days, The Rev'd Grant Darling felt that St. Matthew's should have a choir. A small but joyful group met for rehearsals in those homes where pianos were available; Margaret Snelling was one of these original members. By 1958, a piano had been obtained to assist our excellent choir, under the direction of Al Loney to lead us in music. Eventually we were able to purchase an organ. Mrs. Loney was our pianist and then organist. In 1972, Al Loney tendered his resignation as choirmaster, but fortunately his son Tom was able to take over the role, and also be our organist. In 1974, Tom left to pursue advanced studies at the University of Western Ontario. Ron Dosenbach served for a few months but left in 1975. Al

and Muriel Loney stepped up to the task of keeping music in the services until **it was our good luck to engage Mike Ricketts**, marking the beginning of an association still greatly appreciated today, after 40 years.

HAPPY RUBY ANNIVERSARY, MIKE!

42 Years in the Choir by Kim MacKendrick

It was a ride! I was terrified that first day. I had sung in a boys' choir as a boy but not terribly well. So I knew I could sing BUT not a note could I read. Al Loney was the choir director who was gruff, iron jawed, blunt, forceful, and he had pliers. This item he once drew out of his back pocket and threatened us tenors -- with dramatic effect: we sang higher! Anything for Al. The choir filled three pews, both sides of the chancel. We were big. We were obedient. We sang in the Music Festival too. Teasing my fellow tenor Delores Millman during Bill's sermon was great -- my prize when she couldn't stop laughing. **Then Mike, the professional, came along.** The skies opened. A kinder, gentler choirmaster, Mike who was patient, and oh so knowledgeable, led us sheepish ones into the newer world of church music. It was fun. If I could see the words (the music continues to be a mystery), I would still be there, enjoying every moment.



1982

Girls in the choir by Beth Felet

In the late 70s, you could only belong to the choir if you were an adult or a boy - no girls allowed! Some girls, including Bronwyn Millman (daughter of then Minister Bill Millman), Debbie O'Neil (former parishioner) and myself weren't going to stand for that. After much cajoling, we finally were allowed to join, so we were pioneers! We've come a long way baby! Many years later, I had returned to Windsor and was raising my two children. I had been feeling the need to come back to the choir to sing again, and after much thought (and much assurance from our parish community that someone would always keep an eye on Ted during the service!) decided to come back. One of the motivations for doing so was that I wanted to sing again with Jo-Ann Palin. I had targeted January of 2001 to begin. Sadly, Jo-Ann died on New Year's Eve, and I never had the chance to sing again with her. But when I rejoined, I was given her robe to wear, which really touched my heart. As for Mike, **he is the most patient of choir directors, and he really knows his stuff.** We will repeat a line over and over again to get not only the notes correct, but the enunciation, breathing, timing, and balance just right. He pushes us to get the best out of us and he spends a great deal of time ensuring that all of the music is matched to the lectionary and the preaching for each Sunday to really augment the spoken word. He is an extremely accomplished organist, pianist, and director - he is so very adaptable, whether it be jumping onto the piano when the organ is acting up, directing and playing with other musicians (clarinet, recorder, drums, trumpet), organizing concert events, workshops, to adjusting the group on Sundays when choir members are all of a sudden not available to sing.

Mike is a treasure to us, to St. Matthew's, and to the community.



2005

And lots of girls!

Continue on next page...

Mike Ricketts

Cont...

Interview with Our Choir Director



The Journey: Could you share some of your early memories of St. Matthew's?

Mike Ricketts: When I first came to St. Matthew's in 1975, Beth Felet's father, the late Ted Abey, and Stan Goldspink were wardens; Stan later joined the choir and was a faithful member for more than 20 years. Three of our current choir members were members then: Margaret Snelling, who is a founding member; Richard Postovit, our anchor; and Beth Felet, who then was a member of the Junior Choir. Kim MacKendrick, who recently retired from our choir, was President of the choir. I fondly remember a welcoming party at the MacKendrick's home; their son, Andrew, was born that summer.

TJ: How has the choir changed over the years?

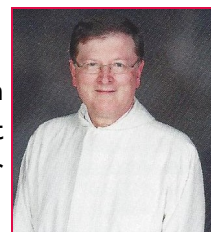
MR: In 1975 the choir vested in black cassocks and white cottas. Today we wear white albs. Our choir has always risen to the occasion of meeting the liturgical music needs of the parish, and over the years has been willing and eager to learn new styles of music to support our evolving liturgies. We have made use of two organs, two pianos and recently added a Clavinova in the choir room. The choir's numbers have ranged from eight to twenty-two members. We have been fortunate for several years to maintain a membership of twelve to fifteen faithful choristers.

TJ: Tell us about those evolving liturgies and styles of music.

MR: Even before the start of my tenure here, music was an important part of St. Matthew's liturgies. The congregation's enthusiastic participation has long been a hallmark of our liturgies. Just as our liturgies have evolved over the years, so have musical styles. In 1975 the 1938 *Book of Common Praise* was our primary resource for hymns. In the 1980s we added two resources for hymns: *Glory and Praise (Vol. 1)* and we compiled *St. Matthew's Songs of Praise*, which is a collection of contemporary hymns from the 1970s and 1980s. We still use these two supplements on a regular basis. The 1998 *Book of Common Praise* became our primary source for hymns soon after it was published. Now we also supplement it with hymns from the internet and print sources.

TJ: Any other thoughts you would like to share with us today?

MR: I have enjoyed working with three rectors and an interim bishop in keeping our music program vital, and I am grateful for the commitment of past and current members of our choir. It has been an honour for me to lead the liturgical music at St. Matthew's.



TJ: And we feel truly blessed to have had such an accomplished and dedicated musician as our organist and choir director for 40 years. **Thank you, Mike!**



The History, photographs and personal stories in this special edition of *The Journey* have been provided by many parishioners over the last six decades; some verbally, others in writing, and many taken from the St. Matthew's archives. It was not possible to credit every one individually, so please accept our apologies, as well as for necessary editing, omissions or mistakes. Also, we have presented just a fraction of these materials, but a booklet from our 25th anniversary and two beautiful scrapbooks compiled by Beth Felet in 2005 for our 50th Anniversary will be on display on the table in the narthex. Please take a moment to review and enjoy them; we trust you will find more memorable moments of our journey together.

With blessings, Shirley Cantle and Irene Savva, co-editors.

St. Matthew's People — Now and Then pp 8-9

Where is...? Let *The Journey* know who we missed, who you did find or a story about a pic you identified.

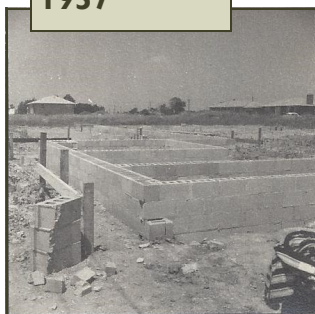
A Bag of Tools

Isn't it strange that princes and kings,
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings;
And ordinary folk like you and me
Are builders of eternity?

To each is given a bag of tools,
An hourglass and a book of rules;
And each must build ere his time has flown
A stumbling block or a stepping stone.

By R.L. Sharp (in: "Best Loved Poems of the American People",
selected by Hazel Felleman; Doubleday & Co., 1936).

**Foundation
1957**



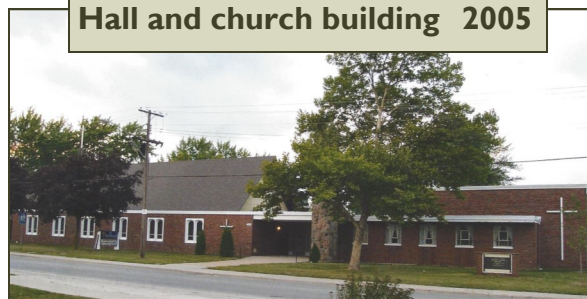
**Front page: parish hall
1957**

**Page 4: Church building
under construction 1966**

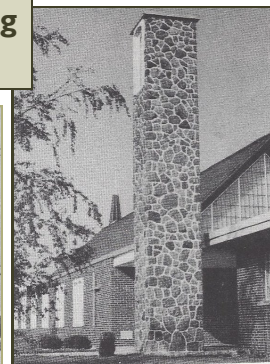
St. Matthew's, today



Hall and church building 2005



**Page 7: church building
1982**



Everybody is Welcome!

Sunday Services:

8:30 am & 10:00 am (September thru June,
summer services, TBA)

Scripture Conversations:

"Looking ahead to Sunday's readings"

Every Wednesday

10:00 am

Services at Huron Lodge:

Holy Eucharist,

1st Tuesday of the month

11:00 am (Begins October 6)

Praise & Prayer:

3rd Sunday of the month

2:15 pm (Begins Sept 20)

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Rector:

The Reverend Andreas Thiel
cellphone(226)345-5085

Deacon:

The Reverend Cathy MacKendrick

We are on the Web!

<http://www.saintmatthewswindsor.ca>

And check out "The Journey" in full
colour (PDF file ready for download)