

# Pelham Community Church

*Creatively loving Jesus here, faithfully serving him everywhere*

Volume 33, Issue 3

December 2011

*A covenanting congregation  
within the United Church of  
Canada*

*461 Canboro Rd.  
Fenwick, ON  
L0S 1C0  
(905)892-5922*

**Minister:**

*Rev. Dr. Diane Walker  
minister@pelhamcommunitychurch.com*

**Youth/Children's Ministry:**  
*Karla Morgan-Ward*

**Minister of Pastoral Care:**  
*Rev. George Schmidt*

*staff@pelhamcommunity  
church.com*

**Inside this issue:**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Editor's Note       | 2 |
| Sharing and Caring  | 3 |
| Mission and Service | 4 |
| Youth Update        | 6 |
| Dates to Remember   | 8 |

## From the Pastor's Desk



Once upon a time, there was a man who lived with his wife, two small children and his elderly parents in a tiny hut. He tried to be patient and gracious, but the noise and crowded conditions wore him down.

In desperation, he consulted a wise man (nowadays we call them therapists) from his town. "Do you have a rooster?" asked the wise man.

"Yes," he replied.

"Keep the rooster in the hut with your family, and come and see me again next week."

The next week the man returned and told his counsellor that living conditions were worse than ever, with the rooster crowing and making a mess of the hut.

"Do you have a cow?" asked the wise man. The man nodded fearfully. "Take your cow into the hut as well and come and see me in a week." Over the next several weeks, the man was asked to make room for a goat, two dogs and his brother's children.

Finally, he could take it no longer and in a fit of anger, kicked out all the animals and guests, leaving only his wife, his children and his parents.

Suddenly his house became spacious and quiet, and everyone lived happily ever after.

Beware of the many Christmas distractions that can add pandemonium to our lives. We've all got to learn to be happy with what we have right now – friends, home, family – and stop worrying about more stuff – more gifts, more décor, more events – more stuff for Christmas. December 25<sup>th</sup> is closing in fast on us now and there is great danger in being swept away by confusion, dissatisfaction and disenchantment.

Let's turn our focus on him who is the source of our joy, peace, hope and love.

Here is a Christmas prayer:

Come, Lord Jesus come: bring your joy to our dissatisfaction, your peace to our restlessness, your hope to our anxiety and your love to our hardness of heart. Come Lord Jesus come and bless us. Come Lord Jesus Come and set us free from striving, from impatience, from the greed to have our own way. Come Lord Jesus come and bless us in the work we do. We long to be faithful, obedient, fruitful servants of you. Come Lord Jesus come, in your precious name we pray. Amen

May every gift of the Christ Child be with you,

Merry Christmas,  
Diane

---

## From the Editor's Desk

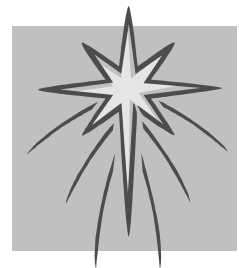
Once upon a time"...Is it just me or does that phrase conjure up warm sentiments? It makes me harken back to a time of childhood and make believe. I usually think of fairy tales that start out with those oh so familiar words. But a couple of true "once upon a time stories" bring a smile to my face. One Christmas our Mom had a great idea: she would use a different wrapping paper for each child to keep 6 prying youngsters busy figuring out which gifts were theirs. Imagine the laughter December 25 when my teen sister opened a make it yourself bird feeder kit for an 8-12 year old and my younger brother got a lovely 70's style blow dryer! Oops! The laughter continued through many more unwrappings and resulted in a REALLY major gift exchange as even our Mom started to get confused in the laughter about what was really for each child. That is still one of my favourite Christmas memories and has provided years of comic relief during stressful times ever since. Perhaps this instance of getting lost in the busyness of Christmas was God's way of creating great memories that bring our family together in a special way long after the event. Another family memory is a Christmas dinner involving a stranger at our table. When we arrived to pick up Grandma, who unknown to us, was in the earliest stages of Alzheimers', she had a houseguest she wanted to bring to the family dinner. No problem. Small glitch was that nobody, including Grandma, had any idea who this person was! She looked like a bag lady and wasn't sure how she had met my Grandmother or arrived at her house. She stayed and joined us that Christmas. To this day, I wonder if maybe that was Jesus, a guest of honour at our humble table, celebrating His birth.

This Christmas, PLEASE take a moment from the P (pandemonium, panic, preoccupation with shopping/meals/visiting) and consider the magic of memories. Sit down with a cup of tea/coffee/hot chocolate/cider and reminisce with friends and family. Remember the once upon a time stories when life was simpler and less hectic, or maybe it was as hectic but you have fun memories of it. Diane reminds us to "beware of the many Christmas distractions." Certainly sound advice from our minister. I hope that you take it to heart. Speaking of heart, let's choose to focus on Jesus who came so that we could let our hearts be light. Sing along with me... "Have yourself a merry little Christmas. Let your heart be light."

We have a choice how to use our time. Let's use it wisely this Christmas to create memories to keep and to share.

Merry Christmas!

Angela Seddon



**WEDDING  
CONGRATULATIONS**

Lynda Downie and David Derkatch were married in September and Wendy Gillap and Justin Dane were wed on October 1, 2011.

**MORE CONGRAULTAIONS**

To Rev. George Schmidt who celebrated the 25th anniversary of his ordination in November, 2011.

**THERE WAS A NEW BABY**

Ivor McCarthy welcomed a great-grandson, Felix Bailey Cooper.

**AND A BAPTISM**

November 20 Kristie Bates and Ken Loughran brought their son, Isaac Leo Sydney Bates for baptism and welcome into the church.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Wishes were expressed to Gladys Treitz in November and Tom Roberts in September.

*Sympathy was expressed to the Baiano family when Heather's father Terry Dilts, passed away October 8, 2011.*

*Helen Leppert and family were shocked and saddened by the loss of her daughter-in-law Judy Thompson in an auto accident in October.*

*We sent a message of sympathy to Stan and Winn Liebau on the sudden death of Winn's brother, Rodney Wright, in October. Also in October, Joanne and Bruce Lennox mourned the loss of Bruce's brother, Roger.*

**GET WELL WISHES**

It seems that surgeons in Niagara have been busy repairing folks from Pelham Community Church:

**Kristie Bates** had gall bladder surgery in October;

**Mrs. Sweet**, Anne Durst's mother, underwent surgery in October, suffered a set back, but is now making good progress;

**Jane Davis** had a surgical procedure on her knee;

In November **Gwen Bouk** had an operation and remains in he hospital at this time;

**Michael Honsberger** had knee replacement surgery in October;

**Lew Morgan's** 7-hour surgery was on December 5. he is making good progress, but will have long recovery.

## Sharing and Caring

### HARVEST KITCHEN

Pelham Community Church cooked and served our first meal of the 2011-2012 season on Sunday November 20. In addition to the usual helpers, we welcomed four E.L. Crossley students from Mr. Edwards' P.A.L. Class.

94 people enjoyed hearty beef stew, salad, rolls, pickles, beverage and delicious apple crisp with whipped topping for dessert. Thank you, Colleen, Ivor and Carol for making all the dessert!

This year we are so happy to have Shirley Begolo (905) 892-6316 doing the coordinating for us. Should you wish to contribute food or volunteer to work, call Shirley and she will slot you in where there is a need.

The December 18 dinner will be baked glazed ham, mashed potatoes, carrots, and lemon pie for dessert. The Anderson children will be handing out Christmas candy favours.

Thank you to all who help with this important mission to our local community. Lew and Jackie Morgan

### ADULT FELLOWSHIP

*Thank you to all you good folks who donated goods or services for the November 4, 2011, Talent Auction. And thank you to all who attended to bid on those items and services and enjoy a piece of pie!*

*Over \$3200 was raised in one night to fund the many projects and programs assisted by the Adult Fellowship. This list includes Harvest Kitchen, student conferences, Inter-Varsity Outreach, Christmas Benevolence, help for Men's Retreat, assistance with youth transportation costs, help with registration cost for camp and more.*

*There used to be four fundraisers per year: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Trash and Treasures, Roast Beef Dinner and Talent Auction. The two dinners have now been eliminated, and the Giant Flea Market is now a project of the Youth. This leaves the Talent Auction as the sole source of funds for the Adult Fellowship.*

**THANK YOU TO ROSS AND LYNN McCARTHY FOR OFFERING THEIR HOME FOR THE ADULT FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 17. MERRY CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL.**  
*Jackie Morgan, pres. (until January!)*

---

## Mission and Service..submitted by Sabine Casson

Here is a summary of what your Mission and Service Gifts Support.

### **IN CANADA**

- 119 Pastoral charges receiving core funding
- 75 Community outreach and social support programs
- 43 Hospital, nursing home, community, and university chaplaincies
- 23 Ecumenical advocacy and interfaith organizations

### **OVERSEAS**

- 31 Global mission personnel, with language training, airfare, and salaries paid for by the M&S Fund
- 108 Churches, Christian councils, and agencies that minister in partnership with The United Church of Canada
- 32 Countries in which The United Church of Canada supports ministry, training, development or relief projects
- 10 Global ecumenical partners

### **2010 RESULTS**

In 2010, United Church congregations and supporters raised \$29,413,000 from gifts to the Mission and Service Fund. This revenue was combined with an additional \$2,378,000 in Mission and Service legacy revenue to provide a total of \$31,791,000 to support the Mission and Service work of the church.

The following are Mission & Service Giving's from Hamilton Conference (2011 – 2013) to Niagara Locations.

| <u>Presbytery</u> | <u>Project Name</u> | <u>2011</u> | <u>2012</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|

#### **Three Year Funding:**

|         |                               |       |       |       |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Niagara | Bethlehem Projects of Niagara | 4,000 | 2,000 | 0     |
| Niagara | The Hope Centre               | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |

Chaplaincies (Note: Funding decreased by 10% in 2012 and another 10% in 2013)

|         |                  |       |       |       |
|---------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Niagara | Brock Chaplaincy | 9,000 | 8,100 | 7,290 |
|---------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|

#### **One Year Funding:**

|         |                                      |        |  |  |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------|--|--|
| Niagara | Women's Resource Centre (Beamsville) | 10,000 |  |  |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--------|--|--|

### **Not funded 2010**

Niagara College Chaplaincy – we were providing seed money only and that agreement lasted for two years only.

---

## Senior Youth (high school)

Lock-in at St. Andrews United planned for **January 2nd**. Details to follow.

Mystery night to be held after January exams.

## Junior Youth Group (Grades 5-8)

Upcoming for Jr. youth: Our post-Christmas party (date & time will be e-mailed when confirmed) and our **Winter Retreat to Shalom by the Lake, Jan 20-22** Join us for games and learning in this winter wonderland. Contact Karla for a permission form.

## Children's Library

 Looking for a snuggle up and read book for you and your little one?

Come check out our new selection of Christmas books! The library is found downstairs in our youth room and is open following Sunday service. Selections of special interest are displayed and available on the table in the church hall. Thank you to the congregation as our new Christmas books were purchased from the money donated.



**Please feel free to get in touch with me if you'd like information on any of our children or youth programs! Karla Morgan-Ward**

*Need Last Minute Gift Ideas.? There is still time... Help is close by in our church family!*

Be a Hero of Hope by purchasing a beautiful **bracelet made by Lannie Seddon to support cancer research**. Bracelets (\$5) come nicely packaged in a bag with a gift tag. Her goal is to sell 500 bracelets. To date she has sold 400. All donations are being matched by the Seddon Family. Cancer can be cured. Be a Hero of Hope and show you care. To purchase call Lannie at 905-892-4019 or ask one of the Seddon's at church.



# Children's Ministry

As this newsletter is heading to print many of our children are excited to have shared this year's Christmas Musical with our congregation, family and friends. We were happy to welcome many new faces to our Kid's Praise Team. It has been so fun working with all of you! We did three performances of Candy Cane Lane, including one at Lookout Ridge where some of our congregation members now live. The children did a great job!

## Cast of Characters

|                 |   |                   |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| Candy Cane Jane | ~ | Mackenzie Casson  |
| Ginger          | ~ | Catherine Maltais |
| Casey           | ~ | Caidyn Mann       |
| Mother          | ~ | Jessie Richer     |
| Marsha          | ~ | Kate Teed         |
| May             | ~ | Katie Hall        |
| Mindy           | ~ | Mackenna Belding  |
| Monkey          | ~ | James Durst       |
| Bee             | ~ | Brittany Keller   |
| Robin           | ~ | Lindsay Boyce     |
| Bunny           | ~ | Lauren Mista      |
| Kitten          | ~ | Natalie Anderson  |
| Fox             | ~ | Eric Edwards      |
| Leprechaun      | ~ | Tessa Hodgson     |
| Goldilocks      | ~ | Hannah Lym-       |
|                 |   | burner            |
| Kid #1          | ~ | Tessa Hodgson     |
| Kid #2          | ~ | Abigail Gilbert   |
| Kid #3          | ~ | Samantha Pierce   |
| Kid #4          | ~ | Megan Hall        |
| Kid #5          | ~ | James Durst       |

## Scripture Readers

Lindsay Boyce  
Brooke Roorda,  
Brittany Keller  
Hannah Lymburner  
Samantha Pierce



## Nativity Characters

|           |   |                                                     |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Mary      | ~ | Natalie Anderson                                    |
| Joseph    | ~ | Eric Edwards                                        |
| Angels    | ~ | Nina Edwards<br>Abigail Gilbert                     |
| Shepherds | ~ | Tyler Anderson<br>Connor Anderson<br>Maxine Edwards |

## WELCOME TO CANDY CANE LANE

*By: Celeste Clydesdale & David T. Clydesdale*



Presented by....  
The Kid's Praise Team

*Most special thanks to Karla Morgan-Ward, our awesome Youth Co-ordinator, for organizing and directing the musical.*

## Important Church Dates

**December 21** Wednesday Worship Christmas Lunch 12:30 pm followed by service at 2:00 p.m.

### **December 24**

4:00 p.m. - Service for Families with young children

7:00 p.m. - Lessons & Carols

9:00 p.m. - Holy Communion Service



**December 25 - 9:30 a.m. worship service with communion**

**January 1 - 9:30 a.m. worship service– New Year's Recovenanting**

**January 2** - Senior Youth "Lock In" at St. Andrew's United

**January 8 - InterAct @ 11 resumes**

**January 15 - Guest Preacher: Jerry Vanderklok of Open Arms Mission**

**January 20-22** Junior Youth Retreat

**Sunday February 19, 2012 at 11:00 a.m.**

Annual Congregational Meeting following worship service.

### **Wednesday Worship 2p.m.**

Jan 4, 18

Feb 1, 15

March 7, 21



### **We Like to Hear From You!**

Minister: Rev. Dr. Diane Walker  
minister@pelhamcommunitychurch.com  
905-892-5922

Editor: Angela Seddon  
seddonangela@hotmail.com

*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:* [pelhamcommunitychurch.com](http://pelhamcommunitychurch.com)