

storyBOOK

Story 2 *Being Church*

While sitting in one of our church pews during worship services or while attending a musical event at Port Nelson, how many of you have looked at the array of information placed in the rack in front of you?

Have you ever wondered how it gets there?

The answer to that question is "a volunteer", one of our church members who comes in weekly to tend to the task of organizing our pew racks.

For many years, **May Bromley** faithfully managed this task, quietly going about her duties -- removing the small papers scribbled on by youngsters, replacing the supply of offering envelopes, straightening the items in the racks and making sure that the small pencils were sharpened.

Story 1 *Men In Aprons*

It all started with the late **Rev. Gerry Brown** in 2002. Gerry, not being very handy in the kitchen, mentioned to **Rev. Heather Gilmour**, a former Visitation Minister, that he wanted to learn how to cook. That evening Heather spoke with her husband **Rev. Charlie Hogg** who had a background in cooking, baking and canning.



Charlie leapt at the opportunity, leading to the formation of the **Men In Aprons**.

Once a month, retired men gather to learn and prepare everything from dinner dishes to canning preserves. The first dish they prepared was 'chicken soup' from a cooked chicken.

The cooking team learns how to cook hands on. The side benefit is getting to know fellow members of our congregation, all at various stages in their cooking journey; many a story is told and shared during this time of fellowship.

Once cooked, the meal is shared by the Men In Aprons at a lunch, often with invitations to our church staff to be regaled at this feast.

Canned items are shared with the team members with much saved for sale at our Mistletoe Mart Christmas Bazaar. Over the years this group has provided various meals for church functions, planned the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and the Men's Breakfasts, to name a few.

Our Men In Aprons small group ministry was featured in an article in the **Hamilton Spectator**. The article drew lots of attention and interest. It was subsequently carried by the **Canadian Press** and picked up countrywide.

They look forward to continuing this important ministry with the new, accessible kitchen and hall! God Bless this special ministry.



A few thoughts...

For generations stories have been shared in every culture as a means of entertainment, education and cultural preservation. The Port Nelson storyBOOK provides an opportunity to grow spiritually through sharing stories about our community and the lives of people close to us. If you have story ideas please contact Lorraine MacMaster lormacmaster@sympatico.ca

Story 3 Our Choral Scholars

Corinne DeJong

In the hundredth psalm, a psalm of thanksgiving, the psalmist implores all to make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

At Port Nelson I have felt thankful this year for the opportunity to do just that. I have always enjoyed singing and knew from a young age that God gave me gifts in song and worship.



Since I was a child I have looked to use those gifts to His glory. While at Hamilton District Christian High-school I sang in the choir and musicals programs. Ultimately my love of music drew me to Nelson HS for grade 12 where I earned my SHSM in Arts and Culture. I completed my undergrad at Wilfrid Laurier University studying under **Leslie Fagan**.

In that time I learned many things about music and about life. Theory classes, history papers and skill testing were interspersed with lessons about good stewardship, loving care for all neighbours, and loving devotion to God and all His ways. Your loving community of Port Nelson has shown how followers of Christ must act in the world with open arms and hearts, and joyful voices raised in praise and gratitude.

Tessa Dickison

I am a 4th year student at McMaster studying cognitive science. I have been a singer throughout my life and was originally looking to pursue music when I realized that I had another passion; rehabilitation.



I work with children whom have special needs or severe medical complications and it is something that I love with all of my heart. I've always incorporated music into the care I give and hope to use music in my future in occupational therapy. After 3 years of studying sciences and working in health care I found myself missing music.

Although I sing in the children's hospital weekly I wanted more music in my life. One day when working in the Trainor lab, Elaine Whiskin told me about the choral scholarship and I thought: "This is just what I was looking for!" And indeed the Port Nelson choir has filled my heart with music once again. For that I am grateful.

Port Nelson United Church, 905 637 5631, 3132 South Drive, Burlington, L7N1H7



Story 2 Being Church

cont...

May recently retired from this role as volunteer and she will be missed.

We are very grateful to her for her years of service to the Port Nelson United Church family.

She is indeed one of our unsung heroes-- volunteers who are not highly visible but very valuable.

Thanks May!

CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, Dec 24 4 PM Family Service (30min)

Sunday, Dec 24 7pm Family Service (45 min)

Sunday, Dec 24 11pm Candlelight
Communion Service

A FESTIVAL OF
LESSONS & CAROLS
December 17 at 4.30PM
The Port Nelson Choir, Soloists, and Readers offer a service of scripture readings entwined with traditional and contemporary carols in our Sanctuary

CELEBRATE OUR MINISTRY

