

# storyBOOK

## Story 2 *Being Church*

My PSA tests continued to be in the normal range despite the fact that my father was diagnosed late in his life with prostate cancer.

Last May my twin brother, following elevated PSA results, had a biopsy which confirmed the presence of prostate cancer. Six weeks later my twin had surgery to remove his prostate. This situation upped my chance of cancer to 50%. Despite my normal range PSA test results I decided to also have a biopsy. I'm so glad I did. One quarter of the samples showed cancer. Thankfully it was early stage.

My urologist was able to schedule my surgery within 4 weeks, in early December 2016. I knew this was the right course of action, and I felt very much at ease with the decision to undergo the surgery.

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## Story 1 *A Visit with Marg McMulkin*



On a recent fall afternoon the tea was made, the cookies plated, and Margaret and I settled ourselves for a trip down the Port Nelson memory lane.

Our chat would take us down many paths including some wonderful stories about our church history. I didn't know where to start with my questions for this story. Fortunately for me, Margaret was never at a loss for anecdotes to share.

Margaret, an Honoured Member and Life Elder of Port Nelson United Church, was full of tales about the accomplishments of the church women in those early years--from the first Kandy Kane Karnival, the beginnings of our Mistletoe Mart, to the construction of the original Sanctuary, the most easterly part of the church complex now used as our upper auditorium, the Lloyd Auditorium.

Right from the first charter service held in Glenwood Public School in 1952, up to the move into what is often called the Old Christian Education Building, the women of this church worked together with a steadfast dedication to raise funds. There was much excitement indeed, and a feeling of great accomplishment when that first building was completed, occupied and fully paid for. The mortgage burning was quite a celebration!

As we chat, Margaret told me that as another Christmas season approached, the strongest memory of long ago Christmases at Port Nelson is that of fresh pine boughs donated by the Fisher family. The enjoyment of the deep pine scent of the boughs was somewhat offset by the sticky resin encountered when cutting and forming the live wreaths which hung along the window walls in the Sanctuary--a memory not soon forgotten for Marg.

There were too many memories to include in this column. Perhaps if you meet Margaret at church one Sunday you might want to have your own chat with her. Story from Lorraine MacMaster.



## 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](mailto:lormacmaster@sympatico.ca)

### Story 3 The Roseland Park Area

Port Nelson United Church is located in the area of Burlington known as Roseland. The Roseland Park neighbourhood was laid out in part by Ross Hart in 1922 and Development Plans 212, "Roseland" and 218 "Roseland Park" were registered in 1923 by Hughes Cleaver.

At this time, only a portion of the lots in the neighbourhood were built on, and due to a lull in residential construction during the Second World War, most of Roseland was not developed until late into the 1940s and early 1950s.



While the houses built in the 1920s were substantial and large, those built after the war were generally smaller and single storey. A number of these homes still exist in altered forms in Roseland. The description of the neighbourhood in the original Roseland Park survey still holds relevancy today:

*“There is an atmosphere of distinction coupled with an unusual beauty and refinement which you will sense the moment you set foot upon Roseland Park...It is a spot in which to make a home that will be a home in every sense of the word - where you can enjoy every advantage of a community life of the finest possible type. See Roseland. It tells its own story. You will understand at first glance.”*

The promotional flyer from 1923 noted lot prices from \$18 per foot, the shade trees, cement sidewalks, wide boulevards, cinder driveways, electricity, water, sewers, a local post office, schools and splendid churches.

The City of Burlington Official Plan Review: Character Area Study for Roseland from 2014 noted the following about the Roseland area.

*“Nestled in a garden-like setting with mature trees, Roseland is a distinctive urban neighbourhood with strong historical character where the spacious lots accommodate homes that are varied and unique and are of a high degree of architectural authenticity.”*

Over Sixty years ago, a group of families from this area came together to share their vision, and sacrificed to build a house of worship in Roseland. With our rich history and the strength of our people, we are truly a blessed congregation.

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



### Story 2 Being Church

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As the primary caregiver for my wife Kathy, and her driver for her dialysis treatments I had a lot to consider and resolve during these four weeks prior to surgery.

I spoke with Michael and Gord and they immediately offered assistance. I was so grateful. Gord followed up arranging drivers for the two weeks after my surgery. I can't tell you how relieved I was to know that Kathy would be taken care of during this time.

This is 'being church'. Other's providing assistance when a need presented itself. While at Joseph Brant Hospital members of our congregation, many who volunteer at the hospital, stopped by for short visits. It was nice to see a familiar face and share a conversation.

From the bottom of our hearts Kathy and I thank those who gave assistance, called, sent get well cards and offered prayers during this time. Your support is very much appreciated.

My energy levels are improving each week. I'm healing well now and my first PSA test results came back as zero.

Tim Rayner