

storyBOOK

Story 2 *Being Church*

There are so many hands that make a church work. Often a need is seen and a member comes forward to 'make it happen'.

This past spring Rod McGrath ran a **Come From Away** raffle raising over **\$2,200** in support of church programs.

Joan Thompson ran a campaign to raise money for our **Food Vouchers program** offering Toronto Blue Jays tickets, raising **\$4,200**.

Earlier this year, Tim Rayner suggested the fundraising dinner "**Island Dreams Resort**" for our Port Nelson ministries. Tim and his event team put together an exciting evening at the Island Dreams Resort (Polish Hall) with palm trees, tropical drinks, buffet dinner and Island music. Thanks to over 125 attendees, **\$8,500** was raised.

Story 1 *Cathy Waugh*

"Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." Marcel Proust



Recently, Cathy Waugh stepped down as our Flower Coordinator. We thank Cathy for her many years of service. Following are some reflections on the many ways Cathy has been and continues to be involved in the life of Port Nelson.

Cathy is an upbeat person. Years ago, she participated in staff birthday parties – putting her special brand of doing things right in all she did.

She knew how to be a host, often holding parties for the staff and the choir at special times of the year. Everyone enjoyed going to her beautiful home. Gord Dunbar – former Associate Minister – recalls, "She was the consummate host, offering plenty of food and providing seating in conversational groupings. Always with a gracious smile, she would glide amongst us to make sure the conversations were flowing easily. I deeply appreciated Cathy's initiative to allow folks to get to know us at her home."

For many years Cathy was Flower Coordinator, placing flowers each Sunday and creating bouquets for shut-ins. Pat Gilmore recalls Cathy as Wedding Hostess: "She looked after our daughter Valerie's wedding. We felt confident that everything was in good hands."

She loves sporty cars, especially convertibles. She has a great sense of humour. Cathy offered to chauffeur former staff members Don Parsons, Howard Brox, Shirley Whitehead and herself to an end of year luncheon at Dick and Brenda Hall's country home. While travelling up Guelph Line, Howard asked for the top to be down in the car. The next thing they knew, Howard was waving like royalty to people we passed on the street. He may have even stood up! Cathy got a real kick out of Howard's antics.

Thank you, Cathy. Your garden has indeed blossomed. We are grateful!



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 Music Ministry*

Jamie Thomblison, Choral Scholar



Church member, grade twelve student at Nelson and granddaughter of Jim & Joan Thomblison, Jamie is a gifted musician playing piano, bells, flute and piccolo. As a member of the Burlington Teen Tour Band, she was Flute Section Leader and now plays piccolo. Her dad Jeff and grandpa Jim are Teen Tour Band alumni.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, Jamie played in a flute quartet during our Sunday worship service.

Olivia (Liv) Morton, Choral Scholar



Liv graduated with a Bachelors of Music Degree specialising in Vocal Performance in May 2018. She is from Burlington and has been involved in multiple local theatre companies including the Burlington Student Theatre and Stage-It in Oakville. Liv has performed operas in various cities including Toronto, London (Ontario), and Lucca (Italy).

“I hope to continue my training in the future through a Graduate Degree program in Opera and pursue a career of performing.” Liv notes that she is loving her time singing with the Port Nelson United Choir.

Handbell Groups - New Music Ministry Program

About a year ago, Stillman Matheson, Music Director, had the opportunity to purchase a set of used handbells in good condition from a local church. With past experience as a handbell conductor, Stillman saw potential for the establishment of a new music program at Port Nelson and so purchased the handbells right away. With the support of the Church Council, the new program took wings. The result is the establishment of not one but three handbell groups comprised mostly of beginners which meet, respectively, on Sundays at 12:15pm, Mondays at 4:00pm, and Mondays at 7:30pm. Remarkably, we now have 26 ringers!

Ringling bells is an activity that many people find very satisfying and enjoyable. It is musical, educational, and social. If you are interested in this program, contact Stillman Matheson or speak to him directly.

stillmanmatheson@portnelsonunitedchurch.com.

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Story 4 *Rekindle*

Voices from the past: Port Nelson United Church time capsules offer a link to our history.

We recently opened two time capsules, each commemorating important dates in the church's history. One of these dates back to the opening of Port Nelson's Lloyd Auditorium in the 1950s, while the other represents the opening of the church's sanctuary almost ten years later.

Inside each box, the congregation found remnants from our shared past: coins and photographs, dedication programs and newspapers.

Perhaps the most important thing drawn from one of the time capsules is a letter from Rev. Jewitt Parr, longtime minister at Port Nelson.

In part, the letter reads: “This building was built to the glory of God by the congregation. The congregation provided the funds but its creation is due to the untiring zeal of Mr. Ken Morris, Chairman of the building committee and the following members: Roy Pennington, Elwood Middleton, Gordon Pilkey, Mrs. Cece Farmer, Mrs. Lorne Livingston, Rev. M. J. Parr and our architect Mr. Robert Yamamoto, a member of the congregation.”