

# ST.LAWRENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY

January 2010

## Forward

The history of St. Lawrence church was written and researched by Morley F. Wilkins, my father in law, up to the year 1961, the purpose of this re-write is to bring the history to the present time. Morley was a man of great compassion and accomplishments; he was a person dedication to the cause of St. Lawrence. Throughout the history you will find reference to his contribution to the church. I became associated with St. Lawrence through meeting of my wife Susan (Wilkins) back in 1963. Through this association I have been involved in all aspects of St. Lawrence church life, it is this life that had allowed me to become closer to God and develop many friendships. The introduction to the St. Lawrence project will explain their cause and subsequent success of the establishment of faith, love, hope and joy in their lives, it is this strength that has fostered the continual growth of the church through the many years.

A. G. Harry Bergsma  
Elder/Treasurer

**Frequently remind yourself that God is with you, that He will never fail you, that you can count upon him. Say these words, "God is with me, helping me."**

**- Norman Vincent Peale**

## Introduction

In June 1946, a group of returned veterans, established under the Veterans Land Act, had purchased homes in the three subdivisions located in the St. Lawrence ward of London Township. A total of twenty eight (28) families represented ten properties located on McNay, Melsandra and Briarhill, eight families on Kenmore Pace and the balance of ten properties on Belfield and Northbrea Drive. A period of three years elapsed during which time all these families were faced with re-adjustments to an entirely new way of life with many problems arising in a semi-rural and suburban area. Fortunately these young couples had many things in common, having served overseas, which gave them determination and the courage to strive for many ambitious dreams brought to a state of reality.

Properties were further developed in a beautification programme to enhance the area as a whole, from a rather desolate, open wilderness to a warm friendly community. Playground areas were set up, associations and service clubs were founded whereas neighbours became close friends, a bond of respect and consideration for one and other was deep rooted. Major problems were minimized by group participation and sharing of responsibilities.

Many a challenge was overcome and ambitions were realized in furthering the ever expanding aims of success, to be recognized as responsible new property owners and good neighbours. Spirits were aroused even further towards ever expanding projects such as local civic endeavours, election of various officials and school boards, assisting general area groups and individuals, with planning improvements and work projects.

It was during one of these, in particular, while a fence was being erected to encompass the old St. Lawrence Public School on Huron Street at Barker, that a guiding force in the person of the late Reverend Peddie of Knollwood Presbyterian Church appeared. Upon hasty, but warm introductions this kindly man joined in and almost immediately became one of the groups and shared in completing the task at hand and continued on toward other undertakings of mutual interest.

August 1949.

The veterans group, now a major part of the newly formed Northbrae Veterans Association and the St. Lawrence Rate payers Association along with many other area residents, had come to respect and admire the quiet but courageous Rev. Peddie, who, had become a devout friend and willing fellow worker.

During this period of summer, when the old St. Lawrence School was somewhat in a state of requiring some repair, the group was working toward rectifying this condition with the proposed plan of using the school as a meeting place for their various functions and activities. Among these was a realization for the need of a place in the ever increasing number of children could be accommodated for pre school learning and religious training. This in itself presented a further challenge in as much as within the concerned members group were various affiliations of denominations. Looking back over the previous accomplishments and past service in the armed forces, it was gradually realized that such had not been a deterrent or problem of major proportion and thus a decision was forthcoming to everyone's satisfaction.

The facts were contemplated and a solution was presented in the form of an undenominational church school, which began upon completion of building repairs and necessary permission for the use of St. Lawrence School premises and furnishings. Group leaders and subjects were carefully chosen whereupon

the resourceful women became involved and Re. Peddie of Knollwood was chosen as guidance referee and counselor.

Thus the small but determined beginning of what was to become the formation of a new concept toward church and Sunday School affiliation combined with all the needs of a striving new and young community.

The first Sunday school service was held in the old St. Lawrence School on Sunday November 20, 1949, with Reverend Peddie officiating. Squire Wallace was appointed by the Knollwood Park session, as first Sunday school superintendent on June 20, 1950.

**"When God calls you to do something, he enables you to do it."**

**- Robert Schuller**

## **"THE BEGINNING"**

### St. Lawrence's History.

In 1949 a Sunday school had begun and the name chosen for the church not only relates to the district and school in which it had its beginning but St. Lawrence was also a martyr of the early church in Spain, under the Valerian period, year 253 to 260. St. Lawrence was probably born at Juasco, Spain, was summoned before the church praetor to present church treasures. These were represented in the form of the poor and sick as truly the treasures of a church and for this St. Lawrence, church martyr, was as history records, "roasted on the grid iron".

Constantine the Great then built a church assembly to his honour and this Escorial was dedicated to St. Lawrence with a feast day on August the 10<sup>th</sup>. The Escorial comprising of a palace, church, monastery, museum, library and burial place, was situated about 30 miles northwest of Madrid. The work began in 1563 and was completed in 1584, after twenty one years of dedication and perseverance by many people. The buildings were in total 740 feet long and 380 feet wide and situated on the slope of the Sierra de Quaderama about 3700 feet above sea level.

Some four hundred years later the present church was founded in London north on Huron Street in the old St. Lawrence School which had been built in 1909.

June 1950.

A progress report on St. Lawrence had been prepared by Reverend Peddie and given to Knollwood session, with a recommendation included to procure a site on which a church could be erected on a later date.

July 1950

The spirits of this young congregation were high and enthusiastic for the procuring of a church site was greatly increasing. A further recommendation was sent to the London Presbytery, from Knollwood session re a church property for St. Lawrence whereupon a survey was undertaken re available land.

A report from town planning indicated that property adjacent to that of St. Lawrence was not yet divided to plan.

On November 19, 1950, the first anniversary service was held by St. Lawrence Sunday school and the congregation at 3 o'clock p.m. with eighty-five attending. Sunday school pupils actively participated in this service under the direction of Reverend Peddie and Squire Wallace. Rev. Peddie gave a heart warming address re. the encouraging response to his interest in St. Lawrence. Members from Knollwood also attended the service and were gratified with the deep interest displayed by this new group. Regular Sunday church services could not be held at this time to limited time allotted Rev. Peddie re St. Lawrence.

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1951

A special Easter service was held and attended in good numbers. Rev. Peddie presented a progress report after the service and that was received with great enthusiasm by all. This report dealt with congregation growth and financial status to date and was indeed encouraging, dealing with congregation's further plans for an immediate property site and following development of a church building.

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1951

The first official church service was held with Rev. Peddie from Knollwood presiding. He presented a spirited address on church pioneering and the challenges to be found. Ten charter members were in attendance among a total of 54 persons. Nine baptisms were performed during this church service, the first to be consummated.

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1951

The first general congregational meeting was called and held in the old St. Lawrence School, with the purpose of discussing the total formation of a church and electing a committee to carry out the proposals and duties toward this end. Don Ferguson was elected chairman of this meeting with Norm MacArthur chosen as secretary. It was agreed that a fewer number of persons were in attendance than had been anticipated. This was attributable to the pre Christmas season and the many activities planned for the same evening in the community. Mr. Don Ferguson proposed some form of assistance toward the Johnson family, the mother of this family had been in hospital for a lengthy period. It was agreed that a 20lb. turkey and a full meal be provided from the Sunday school funds on hand. Further business included the election of Mrs. Len Ferguson as treasurer for 1952 and that funds be split between church and Sunday school based on average offerings to the Sunday school. A further move was, to contact the local home and school group with regard to paying the janitor re his service on behalf of our church group. It was also suggested that a board of managers be chosen from the community to be responsible for all organization and activities of church and the Sunday school group. It was agreed that the board comprise of a minimum of seven members. Other business was conducted and all matters dealt with, along with setting regular meeting times for the board of managers.

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 1951

The second Christmas season was duly celebrated with a special service to which a good number of people responded. A short meeting followed to nominate and elect members of the newly formed board of managers. Elected were: Mrs. Reg Ward, Mrs. Len Ferguson, Messrs. Norm MacArthur, Jas. Weaver, Morley Wilkins. This group would represent the first official body of the newly formed community church.

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 1952

The first meeting of the newly elected Board of Managers of St. Lawrence congregation was duly held with five of the seven members present. First order of business was appointment of officers by election. The election results were as follows:

Chairman of the Board-----	Don Ferguson
Secretary-----	Norm Mac Arthur
Envelope Secretary-----	Jack Fraser
Advisory Committee-----	Jas. Weaver
	Morley Wilkins
	Mrs. Len Ferguson

First business was a motion to send a letter of appreciation to the London Presbytery for receipt of thirty-six new steel leather cushioned stacking chairs supplied late in 1951 for use of the congregation church service at St. Lawrence School. Dual section offering envelopes were proposed with the General fund and Building Fund designations. These same were put to order. Established that the first Thursday of each month be set for the Board of

managers meetings. A motion approved for board members to visit all persons in the community who have shown interest in church advancements and also all parents of Sunday school children. Unanimously agreed that the new church site be procured and a committee set up consisting of Mr. Jack Fraser, Norm MacArthur and James Weaver. It was moved that when the site was obtained or located, the matter was to be immediately referred to the Knollwood session, which will in turn pass the same onto the Presbytery for approval.

January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1952

The Knollwood session discussed at great length the possible suitable location of a building site for the church of St. Lawrence congregation but no definite decision was reached.

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 1952

Ten charter members of the congregation were received into the church at a special service conducted by Reverend Peddie. During this period from 1950-1952 Sunday school pupils had increased to sixty in number under the able guidance of Dr. and Mrs. Quinn with Squire Wallace as superintendant.

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1952

Board of managers meeting held on in the old St. Lawrence School. Those in attendance were Rev. Peddie, Rev. J. Waldie, Rev. C. Locke representing Knollwood session in the London Presbytery. Other guests were Mr. Wallace and Mr. McIver.

The main topic of discussion was the site of a proposed church in the area. Mr. Fraser presented a report from the property sites committee relating to various locations available. Due to a report that sale of lots in unsubdivided properties were frozen by the planning and development board, it was apparent that the old school site should be considered primarily due to the immediate need for church services.

It was agreed that the present ownership of the old St. Lawrence school property be investigated and option to purchase the same be made. Local school board had forwarded a letter in reply to our request to advise that a new school site and building were proposed and that gross replacement cost of the old school had been set at \$16,000.00. This figure was considered high by our board who proposed an offer to purchase present building at a lesser figure.

A motion followed, "that a mission church is requested by the people of the St. Lawrence area and that the same be established under Knollwood session and recommendation be forwarded to London Presbytery for approval". Moved by Jack Fraser, seconded by James Weaver and approved unanimously.

Mr. Don Ferguson moved and Mr. James Weaver seconded a further motion that 30 Hymnals be purchased for use of the congregation and be offered to individuals at a cost if desired, motion carried., and meeting adjourned by L.G. Davis, Clerk of Session, Knollwood.

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1952

At a meeting of Knollwood session a letter was presented by the clerk from London Presbytery granting establishment of a mission church at St. Lawrence School, under the supervision of Knollwood session.

April 3, 1952

St. Lawrence board of managers met and the previous minutes were adopted. The treasurer's report indicated a total balance of \$ 160.97

Church and S.S. revenue. It was moved by Don Ferguson, seconded by James Weaver that Reverend Peddie arrange to have morning services as soon as it was convenient. Motion carried by all present. Also moved, that an area in the old school basement be completed with the addition of flooring and a door. This is used to store new chairs and any other church or Sunday school materials, meeting was adjourned.

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1952

Knollwood session meeting at which Mr. Wallace reported his moving from the district and therefore would have to relinquish his duties as Sunday school superintendant at St. Lawrence. He asked session to take the necessary steps to appoint a successor and the session suggested it might procure a member of St. Lawrence to act as Superintendent.

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1952

At a further meeting of the Knollwood session the moderator presented a list of names from the newly formed St. Lawrence mission to be inserted in the session minute book. Moved by E.G. Davis and seconded by James Clerc that the following names, dates comprise the new St. Lawrence mission communion roll.

Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> 1952

By Profession of Faith

Mr. John Burke  
Mrs. John Burke

By Certificates

Mr. Don Ferguson  
Mrs. Don Ferguson  
Mrs. Len Ferguson  
Mrs. James Weaver  
Mr. Norm MacArthur  
Mrs. Norm MacArthur  
Mr. Jack Fraser  
Mrs. Jack Fraser

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1952

By Profession of Faith

Mr. James Weaver  
Mr. Wm. Ireland  
Mr. Ben T. Smith  
Mrs. Ben Smith  
Mr. Matt Dick  
Mrs. Geo. Hatherall

By Certificates

Mrs. Wm. Ireland  
Mrs. Matt Dick  
Mr. Geo. Hatherall

The session discussed at this meeting tentative hours of morning service for St. Lawrence, it was suggested that Reverend Peddie meet with this group to formulate an agreeable time for morning service.

June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1952

The St. Lawrence Board of Managers meeting-  
. Previous minutes were approved and bills were passed for payment of supplies and etc. Mr. Jack Fraser was appointed as Sunday School Superintendant succeeding Mr. Wallace who is moving from the district. Mr. Morley Wilkins agrees to take over the senior Sunday school class, previously taught by Mr. Wallace. All members of the board agreed to assist members who volunteered their services. Meeting adjourned with prayer by Rev. Peddie.

June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1952

A meeting was held by the Knollwood session to thank and honour Mr. Wallace for his contribution to Knollwood and St. Lawrence. He had been an elder of Knollwood sine June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1950. Under his leadership at St. Lawrence the church had grown and prospered.

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1952

St. Lawrence Board of Managers met and approved the previous minutes. Jack Fraser was empowered to purchase suitable pen and pencil set at a cost of \$12.35 for presentation to Squire Wallace as a token of appreciation of his past service and devotion as Sunday school superintendant.

It was agreed that the Sunday service continue in the old school until the new school building is completed and that the service remain in the morning through September and then change to the afternoon. The holding of Sunday school and church services in the new school was discussed with Mr. Herb Evers of the school board, who agreed that the services can remain as they are.

Proposed also was to hold the anniversary service in the new school the first Sunday after completion. Rev. Peddie reported that he was hopeful that assistance from the London Presbytery would be available in order to obtain a minister or lay preacher for St. Lawrence Mission charge. Arrangements were made to look after the heating of the school for Sunday services. Meeting closed with prayer by Rev. Peddie and adjourned.

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1952

At a meeting of the Knollwood session Mr. Doug Ross was presented as a possible new Sunday school superintendant for St. Lawrence, it was suggested that he act as assistant superintendant meanwhile.

November 6<sup>th</sup>, 1952

A meeting of the interim Board of Managers- representatives Mr. D. Ferguson, Mrs. Len Ferguson, Mr. J. Weaver, Mr. M. Wilkins, Mr. Norm MacArthur and Rev. Peddie approved the previous months minutes. Rev. Peddie advises the receipt of # 138.30 from the London Kiwanis Club and instructed to send a letter of appreciation was approved. Replacement of Mrs.

Ward former board member was discussed and it was decided new board members should be elected at the annual meeting each year hence. A date of November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1952 was set for the anniversary service at the new school, subject to School Board approval. All members and Sunday school pupils are to be contacted when approval is given so as to encourage good attendance for the anniversary service.

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1952

Board of managers meeting approved the previous minutes and new business included a suggestion that our board meet with the School Board of area 2 to discuss final approval for the use of the new school. It was also moved, seconded and received unanimous consent. Also approved was a motion to contribute assistance to the Home and School Christmas concert for an apple for each student. Meeting adjourned with prayer by Rev. Peddie.

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1952

Meeting of the St. Lawrence Board with area School Board, Mr. Kelk, School Board Chairman indicated that the new school would be available for the community groups. After some discussion it was suggested that the St. Lawrence Board make arrangements to lease the old school, rather than use the new school. The church board then asked if the School Board were willing to sell the property across from the school on Huron Street, this property would be more advantageous for a new church. Mr. Kelk agreed to find out and advise the board on this, but still advised to use the old school for current use.

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1953

A meeting of interim Board of Managers and Sunday school teachers was held at the home of Mr. Norm MacArthur, as had been the custom of all previous board meetings. A motion by Mr. Wilkins- seconded by Mr. Weaver to purchase a Baptism Roll carried. Historic record and envelope register was

approved. Also moved that the annual meeting of the congregation be held in February following mission Sunday, carried. A lengthy discussion was held re church property proposal- it was agreed to forward an offer to the school board to lease the old school for 5 years. The Board instructed the secretary to prepare and send a letter to this effect to the local school board at the earliest date and also note that our decision is based on the understanding that satisfactory terms of purchase of the vacant school site was established. The falling off of Sunday school attendance was discussed by Rev. Peddie and the teachers. It was generally felt that all efforts be made to maintain the good attendance of the previous years. Unanimous approval was given to a suggestion by Mrs. Quinn to hold mission Sunday once a month and programs would be arranged by Mrs. Quinn with guest speakers.

The further matter of visitation was presented by Rev. Peddie and Mr. Ross gave his opinion on approach of the same. Mr. Ross was subsequently appointed chairman of a visitation committee who would arrange a complete visitation of all members and adherents. Meeting was adjourned with prayer, after which Mr. Ed Davis suitably replied, God speed to Rev. Peddie on his journey west to a new charge.

January 18,1953

The St. Lawrence Church congregational meeting with the moderator of Presbytery and Knollwood session constituted a Court of the church with moderator Rev. Peddie and elders, Messrs. Wallace, Ross and Davis in attendance. Mrs. John Cleve and Mrs. John Johnson were received as members. These names were added to the Communion roll and five members of the Johnson family were also baptized at this service. This was the first communion service of the new church congregation with twenty members partaking of the sacrament. Rev. G. Peddie preached a very inspiring sermon on the true meaning of church and communion. The entire service was very encouraging and well attended.

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1953

The Board of managers meeting was held at the home of Mr. D. Ross with Sunday school teachers as guests. The main topic of the meeting was the every member canvass plan with D. Ross as committee chairman. The area was mapped out in sections which were allotted to teams who were provided with full instructions on church and Sunday school activities and finance cards to be left with each family called upon. The canvass would be completed in two weeks and all reports with information summary were to be returned for record and review. Other business included a move to build four divider screens at a material cost of \$40.00 with the work done by members, for use in the Sunday school.

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1953

A special meeting of the Board of Managers was held with the representatives of the School Board re the purchase of a vacant school site. After due consideration and discussion it was unanimously agreed that one acre of land would meet our requirements for a church property. The secretary was instructed to prepare a written offer for the land to consist of one acre on the North side of Huron Street with 180 feet of frontage and 250 feet of depth being the South West portion of the school site. Norm MacArthur was to act for St. Lawrence and Mr. Herb Evers for the School Board.

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1953

A meeting of the St. Lawrence Board with the visitation Committee held at the home of Mr. D. Ross. Previous minutes were approved and then a complete review of visitation was held. Results of the canvass stressed the true need for a new church and keen interest for this project was noted. All persons called on were categorized as to members, adherents and interested prospects for the church and Sunday school. A 500 capacity card

file was authorized to record names, addresses and category. It was agreed that in view of the keen interest toward the new church building, that Mr. Ed. Davis of Knollwood session would attend the next London Presbytery meeting to plead our cause and press for immediate action. It was also agreed to purchase 100 church bulletins to be used for Sunday services and send follow up letters to all persons re- the summary visitations. A committee of three named James Weaver, Norm MacArthur and Morley Wilkins were appointed to the church building and property committee to deal with the school board and attend the next meeting re the decision on the land purchase.

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1953

The Board of Managers and the Sunday school staff meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Weaver. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and authorization was given to purchase one ton of coke for the heating of the old school.

The first brownie pack was organized for immediate beginning by Mrs. Len Ferguson, Mrs. D. Ross and Mrs. Norm MacArthur, under the direction of Mrs. Finch of the London Headquarters for Guides and Brownies. The Board of Managers was to sponsor this group to be known as the 37<sup>th</sup> London pack and Mr. Ed Davis contributed \$10.00 towards initial expenses of the project. A substantial sign was approved and it was to be erected on the new church property immediately after the purchase of the land was completed. The caretaker was commended on his past services and it was suggested the church ladies group convene a refreshments booth at the area fireworks display to be in May as well.

May, June, July and August 1953

During these months following April 1953 few meetings were held as the board of managers and the various appointed committees were overtaxed on the various projects on the go. Rev. G. Peddie had accepted the call for Western Canada. Knollwood session for this reason were committed primarily to calling a new minister for their own church and thus St. Lawrence was left as a mission charge, literally on its own for a period of time. Various speakers had been arranged for the church service at this time at a cost of \$ 10.00 per Sunday and financing this with the cost of supplies and developing a building fund with retaining interest, development and membership, was indeed a full time project. Various ways of raising funds were put in motion which was the Ladies group's first combined effort with a refreshing booth at the Victoria Day celebration in the area. This venture proved very successful and was convened by Mrs. Wm. Ireland with a complete sell out. The Men's Group set up a booth which made for a worthy combined project. This provided a good portion of funds to help maintain our financial stability. The board during this period, also were able to close the purchase of vacant school property at a cost of \$1500.00 for one acre of land adjacent to and across Huron Street from the old St. Lawrence School.

The Mission Board and Laymen's groups of London Presbytery had set up a fund of \$5000.00 to be used by the St. Lawrence congregation for church extension and the \$1500.00 of this was used to purchase the property.

A suitable sign was then erected on the new site to signify the proposed church building that would be erected thereon and thus the second milestone of progress had been accomplished.

Services and Sunday School were maintained each week with average attendance- having finally obtained a site for the church created renewed hope and enthusiasm.

August, 1953

The prime concern of the Board of Managers with members and all concerned at this time, was the apparent apathy and little interest shown by London Presbytery and the Mission Board and Knollwood session, who were the original sponsors. As well was the fact that during this period of seeing a lull, we the Board and all members had reached a primary goal but now had little direction as to securing a permanent lay preacher or minister. Rev. McCarroll had accepted the call at Knollwood but his limited time did not permit his added participation in St. Lawrence Mission charge or services.

September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1953

At Knollwood session meeting a motion by Mr. D. Martin seconded by Mr. Geo. Robinson that the request of St. Lawrence congregation for advisory and financial assistance through the London Presbytery be recorded and forwarded to the Presbytery for consideration. -carried.

October 21<sup>st</sup>, 1953

There was a joint meeting of the Knollwood session with the St. Lawrence Board of Managers to consider the necessary steps leading to the erection of a church building on the new site. Representing Knollwood were Rev. D. Locke, interim moderator of Knollwood with Messrs. Esler, Clerc, Martin, Robinson and Davis, elders. While messrs. Ross, MacArthur, Wilkins, Weaver and Fraser acted as St. Lawrence's Board. Upon lengthy discussion as to the need of a church and sufficient families to support the same, the cost of the building and the type of the same, a general canvass of the area to confirm the absolute need, a motion was put forth by Mr. N. MacArthur, that possible grants be made available through the sources of the London Presbytery, seconded by David martin and carried. It was suggested that a three fold pamphlet be circulated with a new general area canvass in order to arouse additional interest in the new church.

December, 1953

This past year has been one of some frustration, much hard work and planning, but with slow and tedious results. It had been difficult to maintain high spirits and enthusiasm among the congregation, but through relentless efforts of the board, Sunday school, Women's group, and members we looked ever onward with determination. A special Christmas service was held and the interest and attendance was again encouraging giving renewed effort towards our future plans.

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1954

At Knollwood session meeting the matter of a supply for St. Lawrence was discussed, moved and seconded and carried, that Knollwood session meeting would continue the responsibility of St. Lawrence congregation, but the Presbytery would be asked to supervise and advise the church building program. It was advised that the new minister has sufficient work with Knollwood and that his time would be limited to help St. Lawrence's congregation.

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1954

A joint meeting of the Knollwood Session and the Home Mission committee of presbytery was held regarding the oversight of the St. Lawrence Congregation. Home missions Committee was represented by the Reverends Waldie, Henderson, West, Forth and John Crawford. Reverend C.A. McCarroll constituted a court of the church in prayer. Each group met for ten minutes and then assembled for a joint meeting. Knollwood session then agreed to be responsible for the St. Lawrence congregation but would ask Presbytery to relieve their minister of the responsibility of ministering to the St. Lawrence group, except for supervision, which ordinarily is handled by the interim moderator until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1954, when the Presbytery was to provide someone to preach and carry out the pastoral work at St. Lawrence until that

date, when the whole situation will again be reviewed. A further motion by D. Martin indicated that Knollwood session agreed to the erection of a new building on the church site north of Huron Street. This was approved unanimously.

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1954

A meeting of the Board of managers of St. Lawrence with Reverend Henderson and Catechist Charles Falconer was held re the church progress. Rev. Henderson reported a sum of \$2000.00 had been gathered throughout the Presbytery for extension work.

Mr. M. Wilkins of St. Lawrence moved to proceed with a church building approximately 30' X 40" at a maximum cost of \$15,000.00, complete with a full basement and upper story to be completed as far as the available funds would allow. It was seconded by James Weaver and carries by all members. Other motions included to get estimates on that size building and to have a plan drawn up to working scale. A further motion was made to contact the London Presbytery by letter and to apply for the balance of \$3500.00 of the original \$5000.00 sum earmarked for the purchase of land which had only cost \$1500.00, and further request Presbytery's financial assistance in procuring funds from any other available sources. Mr. Weaver was appointed to attend the next meeting of Presbytery and press our cause.

It was agreed that Mr. Chas. Falconer be paid a minimum of \$7.50 per Sunday and that this amount to increased to \$10.00 per Sunday if the receipts maintained. It was finally moved that church services be changed to commence at 2:00 p.m. beginning October 1, 1954. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned.

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1954

The ladies of the church whom had already been quite active in support of the church and the Sunday school for some time with financial aid and working on various committees, decided to form their own group.

Their first meeting towards this end was called at the home of Mrs. MacArthur. Mrs. J.K. West of the London Presbytery Women's Missionary Society presided, and after a brief talk on women's missionary work it was agreed to form the ladies' group. This group was to be known as the Lillian Quinn Ladies Group, in honour of Mrs. Quinn who had worked so faithfully on our Sunday school and greatly contributed to the success of the St. Lawrence Congregation.

Officers appointed were:

Honorary President-----	Mrs. W. Quinn
President-----	Mrs. Wm Ireland
1 <sup>st</sup> .Vice-President-----	Mrs. Norm McArthur
2 <sup>nd</sup> .Vice President-----	Mrs. James Weaver
Treasurer-----	Mrs. H. Styles
Secretary-----	Mrs. T. French
Press Reporter-----	Mrs. Doris Ferguson

The Lillian Quinn Group will be an associate group to the W.M.S. and meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month. Mrs. Scollick of W.M.S. spoke on literature and supplies available and Mrs. Murchison closed the meeting with prayer.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, 1954 an executive meeting was called and the following year's programs were planned at the home of Mrs. Wm. Ireland.

There was a congregational meeting of St. Lawrence with Reverend C.A. McCarroll officiating. It was held at St. Lawrence church school. A report that Mr. Charles falconer, Catechist had been appointed to the charge of St. Lawrence congregation as of May 1954 combined with being the pastor of South Nissouri, was received. Rev. McCarroll pointed out the amount of contributions toward the building fund from the people of St. Lawrence was \$500.00. This was confirmed and also agreed that an additional like sum could be raised immediately if additional funds could be made available. Rev. McCarroll in turn advised that approximately \$3000.00 was available from the London Presbytery and a further sum of \$3500.00 from the \$5000.00 building fund was also available. It was then agreed unanimously that the Wellington Gun Club Building at a cost of \$1000.00 be bought and arranged to move to the building site for St. Lawrence.

A committee was then selected to proceed with excavation and foundation plans to be completed prior to moving the building pending the close of purchase.

The matter of appointment of trustees was raised and the congregation was advised to select suitable persons for this and present names at the next meeting.

October 28<sup>st</sup>, 1954

The Knollwood session meeting was held after the evening service at which the moderator reported on the St. Lawrence Group regarding the purchase of a church building. The offer to purchase the gun club building of frame construction 25' X 50' for \$1000.00 and a sum of \$800.00 to move the building on to the church site, was approved and passed on to the London Presbytery for consideration. Renovations to the building were to cost \$1,700.00. Motion of the approval on the total plan was made by D. Martin and seconded by E.G. Davis- carried. Instruction was given to the treasurer to forward a letter to the London Presbytery. The members received by profession of faith were; Mrs. John Kuyer and by transfer, Mr. and Mrs. Mac

Hill, Mr. J. Kuyer, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stearman, Mr. and Mrs. D. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Morrison, Mrs. M. Pearce and Mrs. Ed. Flanagan.

October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1954

The Lillian Quinn group met at the home of Mrs. Wm. Ireland. The meetings were changed to the fourth Monday of the month and Mrs. Dockstader was appointed in charge of the cradle roll. Mrs. M.F. Wilkins was selected to visit shut-ins, send cards to the sick and flowers to those in hospital, from the St. Lawrence congregation. A Christmas bazaar was planned and Mrs. T. French was to act as a convenor. Mrs. Chas. Falconer was appointed honorary president and the meeting was adjourned.

November 21<sup>st</sup>, 1954

A special meeting was called with the Rev. McCarroll officiating. Nominations were called for trustees for the St. Lawrence congregation, three were nominated and elected- Messrs Ireland, Weaver and Mac Arthur.

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1954

A special service was held for the corner stone laying ceremony with full attendance and congregational participation. Many special guests assisted in making this another great step forward. Rev. D. Locke placed the stone assisted by Rev. John Fleck who gave an encouraging address and Rev. H. Pritchard presented the dedication. Special offerings on this occasion amounted to \$200.00.

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1954

At the Knollwood session it was agreed that Rev. McCarroll continue as interim moderator for the St. Lawrence congregation.

December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1954

A meeting of the newly appointed trustees and board of managers of St .Lawrence was held at the home of Wm. Ireland when three additional members were chosen for the board, namely- Mr. Jack Burke, Mr. Wm. Ireland and Mr. H. Warriner. The board now comprises of the following-

Mr. D. Ferguson- Chairman

Mr. Jack Burke- Treasurer

Mr. Jack Fraser-Envelope Secretary

Mr. Norm Mac Arthur- secretary

Committee Chairmen

Mr. James Weaver

Mr. Morley Wilkins

Mr. Harry Warriner

Mrs. L. Ferguson

Mr. Wm. Ireland

The following accounts were approved for payment, by supplying 3 authorized notes to the London Presbytery in the total amount of \$3000.00

Ryerson Construction	\$1200.00
Building-Wellington Gun Club	1000.00
Moving-Morrison mover	800.00
Right of way CPR	25.00
Right of way London Township	50.00
Right of way CNR	50.00
Steel beams CNR	102.50
Stationary and printing	10.45

**TOTAL 3,217.95**

The balance of \$ 217.95 was paid by cheque from the building fund.

Additional motions included:

- 1) Obtain bids on the new oil furnace and installation
- 2) Wm. Ireland was to purchase materials required and proceed with the electrical wiring of the new building
- 3) Building committee- Messrs Ireland, MacArthur and Weaver were to authorize other building details including revamping the roof, rear addition, front vestibule stairs, steeple, windows, doors and etc. and contact the PUC for the installation of water.

January 1st, 1955

The St. Lawrence congregation was pleased with S. Nissouri session with Rev. W. Kincaid as interim moderator, responsible for the St. Lawrence Charge.

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Lillian Quinn ladies group proposed providing a dinner for the new London North Lions club each month with meetings held in the church basement and a letter was sent to the club secretary. A recommendation was also proposed to commence a working study on various crafts for members.

February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Presbytery of London adopted the following recommendations: That in order to consolidate London Presbytery mission work, the St. Lawrence Congregation supervision be placed under the S. Nissouri session. Appreciation was expressed to the Knollwood session for the leadership given over the early years of the St. Lawrence congregation, who will always be indebted to the Knollwood session.

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1955

At a meeting of the St. Lawrence Board with Mr. Falconer and Rev. Firth present, mission support was explained along with the workings of the sessions, Board of managers and the general church business and financial operations.

It was suggested and moved that the present congregations portion of salary for Mr. Charles Falconer be increased from \$520.00 to \$800.00 per annum with summer supply to be paid in addition. An up to date statement of accounts was also requested so payments could be made.

February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Lillian Quinn Ladies Group met at the home of Mrs. Quinn, when the first treasurers' report indicated a sum of \$ 27.46 was on hand. The Mission Assessment from the WMS was allotted at \$.25 per member. The program

included slides and a talk on the life in India as experienced by Dr. and Mrs. Quinn during their term of mission there.

March 1955

The Lillian Quinn group met to discuss the church and mission support. A travelling basket project was adopted as were the distribution of Mission "MITE" boxes. Members' dues were reviewed and updated and Mr. James Weaver was appointed program convener. A birthday book of congregation members was inaugurated with the purchase of a book and cards to be sent on birthdays, then the person receiving the card would submit the amount of cash equivalent to their age.

April 1955

The Lillian Group met at the home of Mrs. A.C. Farmer, where the first funds from the travelling basket amounted to \$4.50. Updated membership fees were collected and Mrs. Waldie spoke on the Women's Missionary Society in Canada.

May 1955

The Lillian Quinn Group met at the home of Mrs. James Weaver, when the treasurer reported an amount of \$30.20 in funds on hand. It was recommended that 100 cups and spoons be rented for the dedication service and the women's group was to host a tea party after the service. Mrs. Black, mother of Mrs. N. MacArthur presented a most interesting talk.

June 1955

A dedication service and ceremony was held in the new church building with a capacity attendance. Rev. O.D. Henderson, Moderator of the Presbytery, officiated assisted by Rev. D.J. Firth, convener of missions. It was also indicated that the St. Lawrence congregation had established the first new church to be opened by a new congregation in the London Presbytery for the past thirty years and at a minimal outlay of just \$8000.00 for land and church building which included the total expenses to date- truly a major accomplishment.

June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The first and opening service for the new St. Lawrence Presbyterian Community Church was held in the new church building in the new location on the North side of Huron Street opposite and West of Barker Street London North. Two Sunday services were held and our former minister Rev. G. Peddie preached at both services by a well attended congregation. The formation and advancement of the St. Lawrence congregation had been truly appreciative and heartfelt experience for Reverend Peddie and also a memorable one. Sincere thanks and appreciation were expressed to him as he journeyed back west to his present charge, where after a short period of time he was to pass on to a rest full, eternal peace truly remembered by all who him been touched by his love and abundance.

June 1955

The Lillian Quinn Group met and approved an expenditure for Sunday school supplies. Receipts from the Brownie's sale of cookies was donated to the Women's group, plus the proceeds from two plastics-ware parties with two separate donation, were used to purchase linens, plastic curtains and cups for the church kitchen. Mrs. Slemon also donated dishes and spoons toward the kitchen needs. Summer meetings were suggested to be suspended.

September 18, 1955

A meeting of the St. Lawrence Board was held at the home of Mr. Jack Burke, where previous business and finances were reviewed and discussed in detail. A treasurer's report indicated a total of \$ 330.79 in receipts of which \$83.90 was the current fund and the \$ 246.89 was the building fund. The expenses were paid to August 31. It was moved by Jack Burke and seconded by Jack Fraser that the balance of the Ryerson account be paid by means of a loan covered by ten personal notes by the board members of \$50.00 each. Advertising church hours of service and activities was recommended and all new families in the area were to be contacted as possible members or adherents. A mailing list was made up to be used in the canvas. It was recommended that we sell a spare oak desk for \$25.00- approved. A campaign was outlined in preparation of complete area canvas by mail and personal calls on each home in the general area.

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Lillian group met in the new church parlour for the first time, where it was decided to give a dinner for the London Presbytery. Mrs. Dalton donated linen table covers for a communion table with the promise of a second one. Two ladies were appointed as a cleaning committee for the church covering the month of October. The one year anniversary of the group was observed with a lunch.

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1955

A board of Managers meeting was called on a special notice, when Mr. Norm MacArthur was given authorization to sign a bank loan for \$500.00 with Mr. Jack Burke as co-signer. This loan was covered by personal notes and signed as follows:

Mr. Norm MacArthur-----	\$100.00
Mr. Morley Wilkins-----	50.00
Mr. Jack Burke-----	50.00
Mr. James Weaver-----	50.00
Mrs. Styles-----	50.00
Mr. William Ireland-----	50.00
Mr. Jack Fraser-----	50.00
Mr. Harry Warriner-----	50.00
Mr. George Hatherall-----	50.00

TOTAL                   \$ 500.00

It was agreed that the account of Mr. Robson re the entrance doors for the church be paid and also \$25.00 for tables and chairs purchased from the School board. It was recommended to form a Boy's mid week activity group with plans set out for the same.

October 24<sup>th</sup> 1955

The Lillian Group set a date of November 8<sup>th</sup> for the Presbytery dinner and completed arrangements. It was recommended that a children's group be started with games, crafts and stories to be called Pioneer Girls. The group was sponsored by the Lillian Quinn Group with an initial fund set up at \$10.00. The membership fee will be \$.50 each plus \$.10 weekly to cover the cost of supplies. A bazaar was planned for December 3<sup>rd</sup>, with various candy, home

baking, sewing and novelty tables. Mrs. Weaver was to clean the church in November.

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Lillian Quinn Group met in the church parlour, but bad weather minimized the turnout. The dinner for the Presbytery was a success with 32 guests attending with the net funds raised at \$ 24.00. the December bazaar plans were finalized for December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the group had also a mother and daughter dinner on November 25<sup>th</sup>, with good attendance and an excellent meal which had also netted a profit. It was moved to purchase a piano for the church at a cost of \$60.00- carried. Christmas treats were to be provided for the Sunday school children.

The election of officers for St. Lawrence in 1956 were as follows.

President-----Mrs. Norm MacArthur  
Vice President----- Mrs. William Ireland  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice president----- Mrs. James Weaver  
Treasurer----- Mrs. Styles  
Secretary----- Mrs. Dalton  
Cradle Roll----- Mrs. Sheppard  
Flowers and Cards----- Mrs. Morley Wilkins  
Card Convener----- Mrs. Don Ferguson  
Press Agent----- Mrs. R. Marshall

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1955

The Board of Managers met with Mr. Charles Falconer invited as a guest. The treasurers' report showed \$ 143.00 in the current account and \$566.97 in the building fund.

It was recommended that the installation of eavestroughing for the church building be undertaken at a cost of \$75.00. it was moved that payment

be made on the bank loan in the amount of \$300.00, some of which had been donated by the New St. James Congregation towards gravel for the parking lot and church eavestroughing- carried. It was moved that the minister be paid \$100.00 in arrears from donations received from Mr. Morrison- \$50.00 Mr. Mc Vicar \$10.00, Elmwood Ave Presbyterian Church \$25.00, and Mr. A.C> Farmer \$35.00, these donations proved a timely gift to lessen our financial ills. The congregational meeting was set up for January 1956 for the year end statement and the election of officers.

January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1956

The first annual congregational meeting was held in the new church and for the first time since our beginning-five years prior to this meeting, a full financial statement and records of past years are to be presented.

#### NOTE

During the five year period from 1950, financial records had been very scanty and written records had to be derived from session minutes, board minutes and the Lillian Quinn Ladies group minutes, together with various notations from all other sources. We therefore are fortunate to have compiled a complete month by month summary of this period, when indeed, the foundation of the St. Lawrence congregation was realized. There is an old saying, " the first five years are the hardest" and this would sincerely apply throughout our period of establishing ourselves during these difficult but challenging years.

Reverend Kincaid officiated at the annual meeting with Mrs. M. Wilkins, organist, who played several organ selections on the old pump organ, loaned to us by St. George's Presbyterian Church, until we could replace it with a later model. Mr. Falconer acted as chairman with Mr. Wilkins as secretary. A special appreciation was given to Mr. Norm MacArthur for his untiring and devoted endeavours on behalf of the church congregation. His determination and leadership combined with his spirited leadership, and his spirited Board of managers, had proven real need in a new and young community.



## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

General Present Assessment- \$79.80 per year

Mr. Charles Falconer to remain for the year 1955 at \$800.00 per annum plus one month supply.

Balance forward from 1954= \$ 201.37

Total receipts 1955- \$ 1,084.70 from current revenue

Total Expenditures= \$ 1,025.79, balance forward \$ 58.91

Building fund receipts 1954 balance forward = \$ 570.00

Building fund revenue balance forward = \$ 299.51

1954 balance	\$570.00
Dr. Don Thomson	500.00
Mr. D. McVicar	20.00
New St. James	300.00
Mr. G. Robson	25.00
Water rebate	62.00
Bank Loan	500.00
Bank Interest	4.56
Pres. Church of Cda.	3,457.80
Subscriptions	1, 569.99
Building fund total	\$ 7,059.35

### Building fund Expenditures

Insurance 3 years	157.50
Steel Beams	15.00



Total expenditures	114.03
Bank Balance	109.33
Total	\$223.36

Sunday School Report

Teachers 11  
 Officers 4

Total 15

Number of pupils 73

Total Receipts	\$155.84	Total Expenditures	\$ 165.33
Balance forward	9.68	Bank Balance	.19
	165.52		165.52

39<sup>th</sup> Brownie Pack

Leaders- Mrs. N. Mac Arthur  
 Mrs. M. Wilkins  
 Mrs. J. Weaver

Member 29 Weekly meetings

Total receipts	\$143.72	Total Expenditures	\$ 109.16
		Bank Balance	34.56
			\$143.72

Pioneer Girls Club

Leaders Mrs. H Styles

Mrs. O. Stone  
Miss. L. Schneider

Members 24 Weekly Meetings

St. Lawrence Boys Club

Leaders

Mr. Jack Fraser  
Mr. James Weaver  
Mr. Morley Wilkins  
Mr. Norm MacArthur  
Mr. Jack Burke

Members 16 Weekly meetings.

Note.

From this point forward we will pick up pertinent facts and any major happenings during each following year and summarize it with each year's annual meeting rather than report each monthly meeting.

March 1956

Northbrae Home and School sent \$15.00 for the use of the church basement for the well baby clinic. New entrance doors for the church were recommended.

April 1956

Planned details for two anniversary services for June 12<sup>th</sup>. Ordered entrance doors for the church to replace the damaged ones. Spring clean up for outside of church.

May 1956

Sunday school and congregational picnic held at Springbank Park, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Advertise church services in a local paper for a period of one year. Planned for drapes with track for church basement for the use of the Sunday school classes. Mr. Robert Woolvet elected treasurer to replace Jack Fraser who moved to Brantford.

June 1956

Lillian Quinn Group had presentation and social for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fraser since their move to Brantford was happening.

August 1956

Board reported financial standing at \$ 141.60, current funds and \$ 208.67 in the building fund. Mr. Murray McInroy and Mr. Cal Pit are appointed as ushers to take collections. The sector canvas program was discussed.

September 1956

Every member canvas, sector program began with ten weekly training sessions, the first of which was held at Centennial United Church on September 13<sup>th</sup>. All board members and committee men to take this course and six pairs are required to complete training period to accomplish a successful canvas. St. Lawrence program was under the direction of our sector plan committee, comprised of fellow executives.

Mr. Morley Wilkins	Director Instructor
Mr. Norm MacArthur	Director Liaison
Mr. Jack Burke	Group Director
Mr. Harry Warriner	Names Director
Mr. Mac Hill	Printer and Letters
Mr. Charles Falconer	Advertising Director

Sector stewardship Sunday scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1956 when a dinner meeting will be held for all committee and canvassers with Mr. Norm MacArthur as chairman.

October 1956

Sector project continues with the last training session at Centennial United Church on October 25<sup>th</sup>. All material and charts provided and announcements have been made to the congregation and all church groups have been approached with films, slides and talks. Charts are completed with pictures and demo lettering showing true needs of the church and proposals for better operation on the church and Sunday school. All name lists are broken down for area routing and evaluation programs are done. Display posters are set up in various church locations and all letters have gone out to members and adherents.

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1956

Final notice sent out for congregational dinner on November 1<sup>st</sup>, and pledge cards have been added to the canvas kits. Congregational dinner held in the basement with the Lillian Quinn group providing a delicious meal. Mr. Norm Mac Arthur acted as chairman, welcome message by Charles Falconer, short talk on project and proposals given by Mr. Morley Wilkins while Mr. Jack Burke Presented film strips to complete the evening.

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1956

Stewardship canvas campaign completed and the results were tabulated together with summary of all calls made. St. Lawrence headed 20 churches with their results and pledges given with a 130% increase in pledged giving and the entire plan was deemed a great success.

November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1956

The following members were received into membership of St. Lawrence by transfer or by profession of faith.

Miss. E. Mc Ilvenna  
Mrs. Marg. Shoebottom  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Barkley  
Mr. and Mrs. M. Wilkins  
Mr. and Mrs. John Main  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Johnson

December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1956

At the Board of Managers meeting held at the home of Mr. M. Wilkins  
The financial situation was reported.

Current Fund-----\$ 468.22

Building Fund-----\$ 308.93

Moved to pay the minister \$100.00 in arrears of salary plus the  
December stipend as well- carried

A lengthy and careful detailed discussion was held on the subject of procuring our own minister and the purchase of a manse. Based on pledges from the recent canvas and anticipated receipts, it was felt that the income would justify payment of \$2600.00 per year towards a minister and \$100.00 per month on a manse. Fixed expenses of \$1000.00 per annum were considered adequate, leaving a surplus to pay a mortgage of \$800.00 per year. Our accumulated cash, however, was considered at only \$500.00 which would mean an additional loan of approximately \$1000.00 would be needed to meet the necessary down payment of a manse. It was moved and agreed that this Board take immediate steps to purchase a manse property. Further, the board felt, from the results of the recent canvas of members and adherents, having a full time minister is a must for St. Lawrence. The matter for obtaining and selecting of a minister is a matter for the congregations' approval, therefore, the board felt the provision for purchase of a manse was the first step. Recommended that we proceed with a plan to purchase a manse of good brick construction in a good location and bring the matter of calling a minister to the annual congregational meeting, all members approved and the meeting adjourned.

December 1956

S. Nissouri session met to proceed with election of elders for St. Lawrence congregation, ballots were to be collected and counted on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 1956. ballots were counted after nomination had been made and the elders were chosen:

Messrs. Norm MacArthur  
William Barkley  
John Main

These would be the first session of St. Lawrence.

1956 Annual report

Minister Mr. Chas. Falconer

Organist Mrs. M. Wilkins

Session S. Nissouri

Board of Managers

3 year term

Mr. Morley Wilkins  
Mr. Arn Stearman

2 year term

Mr. Jack Fraser  
Mr. Jack Burke  
Mr. Mac Hill

1 year term

Mr. H. Warriner

Secretary

Mr. Norm Mac Arthur

Treasurer

Mr. R. Woolvet

Envelope Secretary

Mrs. Jack Burke

Auditors  
Trustees

Mr. Don Marshall, Mr. John Kuyer  
Mr. Wm. Ireland  
Mr. James Weaver  
Mr. Norm Mac Arhtur

**Current Revenue**

Receipts Forward	\$58.91	Expenditures forward	\$467.24
Total \$ 2,159.38	2100.47	Total 2158.38	1692.14

**Building Fund**

Building Receipts	306.22	Expenditures	395.23
Total 1157.05	850.83	total	761.82

**Mission Receipts**

Sunday school	55.00	Expenditures	
Girls club	6.00	Fwd to Toronto missions	61.00

**Total expenses 1955**

3,377.43

Proposed budget for 1956 5540.00

**Lillian Quinn Group**

Tot receipts forwarded	.19	Expenses fwd.	207.83
526.96	267.22	total 526.96	319.13

**Sunday School Report**

Total receipts 267.22

Expenditures 267.31

### Session Report

	1955	1956
Members	35	54
Adherents	6	33
Baptisms	3	3
Marriages	0	0
Removed	0	4

### Brownies 37<sup>th</sup> Pack

Meet Weekly- Members 28

Leaders  
Mrs. Wm. Barkley  
Mrs. N. Peterborough  
Mrs. M. Wilkins

### Girls Club Report

Meet Weekly- Members 28

Leaders  
Mrs. L. Schneider  
Mrs. Wm. Ireland

### Boys Club Report

Meet Weekly- Members 16

Leaders  
Mr. N. Mac Arthur  
Mr. K. Flannigan

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1957

Board of Managers report from committee on manse purchase- type of dwelling would be 2500 sq. feet minimum, down payment and \$ 75.00 per month

Treasurer Report

Bank Balance	\$ 892.37
Current Fund	467.24
Building Fund	395.23
Outstanding cheques	29.90

Committee member Don Marshall to investigate property on Hillcrest area re possible manse. Ministers' stipend increased from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00 per annum plus additional benefits and supply. Moved by Jack Burke and seconded by Mac Hill that pay phone be installed at the church due to various weekly activities being carried out.

January 27, 1957

Church cleaning committee set up as follows  
February—Mr. Mac Hill and K. Flannigan  
March-----Mr. Harry Warriner and Norm Mac Arthur  
April -----Mr. Morley Wilkins and Mr. J. Kuyer  
Program for annual meeting was set up  
January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1957

## Annual Meeting and Report for 1956

Meeting was held with 35 persons present plus guests and Rev. Kincaid as , with Mr. Chas Falconer appointed Chairman. All reports and financial statements were adopted and new officers were elected as follows.

### Board of Managers.

3 years	Mr. Wm. Ireland Mr. K. Flannigan
2 years	Mr. M. Wilkins Mr. Mac. Hill Mr. R. Woolvet
1 year	Mr. Jack Burke Mr. H. Warriner Mr. J. Kuyer
Secretary	Mr. N. Mac Arthur
Trustees	Mr. N. Mac Arthur Mr. Jas. Weaver Mr. Wm. Ireland
Envelope Secretary	Mrs. M. McInroy
Auditor	Mr. Dom Marshall
Ushers	Mr. C. Pitt Mr. J. Cleve Mr. Mac Donald Mr. R. Salmon

Main topic of new business was the success of the every member canvas with the same to be repeated in 1957. The procuring of a permanent minister for St. Lawrence, full time, and the purchase of a manse property.

Mr. Chas. Falconer reported that his health would not permit him to carry on with two charges indefinitely and planned to revert to one congregational as soon as feasible. He further believed that the forward growth and progress of St. Lawrence congregation depended on a full time minister and to submit a report on their findings, along with a financial situation re the same to a congregational meeting to be called prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1957, all agreed. A motion was accepted as well, that the manse not be located on present church property. Moved also and carries that St. Lawrence participate again in the every member canvas project for 1957. Mrs. D. Marshall was to continue as Presbyterian record secretary for the year.

January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1957

The Lillian Quinn Group reported receipts of \$230.00 from the Christmas Bazaar which had been a real success.

Officers elected for the new term are as follows.

President----- Mrs. J. Burke

Ist Vice President---- Mrs. W. Barkley

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President---- Mrs. D. Marshall

Treasurer-----Mrs. K. Flannigan

Secretary-----Mrs. R. Woolvet

Corr. Secretary-----Mrs. D. Ferguson

Welcome and welfare-Mrs.E. Flannigan/Mrs. M. Hill

Ways and Means-----Mrs. McIlvenna, Mrs. R. Flannigan, Mrs. WM. Ireland

Program-----Mrs. N. Mac Arthur

Tel. Comm. -----Mrs. M. Wilkins

Lunch Comm.-----Mrs McIver

Program outlined for raising additional funds to establish a manse fund of \$ 500.00. It was also moved that all officers elected will serve a two year term, carried. A rummage sale planned for February and a county fair for June.

February, 1957

Board of Managers met and reported to defer telephone installation as the cost was \$ 85.80. Board meetings were changed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 P.M.

February 1957

Lillian Quinn group reported receipts of \$ 201.19 with \$ 89.35 from the rummage sale and \$100.00 in the manse fund. Blinds had been purchased and installed in the church.

March 1957

Board of Managers

Mr. H. Warriner appointed representative to the London Presbyterian mission Board, Laymen's Extension Committee.

Treasurers' Report

Current Fund	\$ 639.99
Missions	28.15
Building Fund	475.13

Advertising in the London Free Press \$ 107.64 per year. Mr. John Kuyer accepted the position as caretaker of the church building at a fee of \$10.00 per month, covering cleaning the church each week. Six keys were made for each member requiring a key, each key was to be recorded and the record was to be kept by Mr. H. Warriner.

March 1957

Lillian Quinn Group

Bake sale scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup>, and rummage sale to be held in April 1957. Mother and daughter banquet for the Brownies is set for May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1957 and a further planned jewelry demonstration for the April meeting. The sum of \$100.00 was transferred to the manse fund and Mrs. Wm. Barkley was to convene the county fair for June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1957.

Lillian Quinn Group

April 1957

Treasurer reported a bank balance of \$ 125.53 with \$ 31.15 in proceeds from the bake sale. Mrs. Wm. Barkley unable to convene the county fair due to illness but same to proceed and request assistance in this venture from the Board of Managers

April 1957

## Board of Managers

Mr. Wilkins moved and the motion was accepted that the church door account be paid though we were not pleased with the type of doors installed at the price given.

Eighty sets of church envelopes approved for order re use in the 1958 period. Quarterly statements of envelope receipts were recommended to be sent to each contributor. The treasurer reported receipts as follows:

Current Fund	792.73
Building Fund	500.13
Missions	44.15

The property insurance was to be reviewed for adequate coverage especially to check contract re liability clause.

## May 1957

The property insurance committee reported, contract fully covers public liability and property damage and otherwise satisfactory regarding coverage for public at the county fair. Mr. Chas. Falconer reviewed questionnaire from Dr. Neil Millar on the sector project.

## June 1957

Board of Managers premium of \$29.90 was approved on liability insurance policy. Committee and financial plan set up for the congregational picnic. The treasurer report was as follows:

Current Fund	\$ 983.57
Building Fund	454.00
Mission	73.61

Mr. Chas falconer indicated a request for leave of absence for 6 weeks due to illness and his being under doctor's orders, this period covers July and the first two weeks of August. The request was granted and the move of obtaining a supply for this period to be paid at \$10.00 per Sunday.

June 1957 to Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, 1957

A report was given- that receipts from the Brownie banquet was in the amount of \$20.57. The county fair date was set for June 21<sup>st</sup>, and was to be held indoors if the weather was inclement. A desk reading lamp was recommended for the Church pulpit along with a baptismal font and a communion set. Bazaar and Bake sale was set up for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1957 with Miss McIvenna convening. It was moved to donate \$75.00 toward floor tile for the church basement and that \$30.00 be sent to the Presbyterian secretary. Two appointments with Mrs. John Cleave as second vice president and also that Mrs. Chas. Falconer be the secretary. An amount of \$150.00 was transferred to the manse fund and \$10.00 towards Christmas treats. A C.G.I.T. group had been formed and \$10.00 was allotted to sponsor this new group. Future meetings beginning January 1958 would be held on the first Monday of each month. The total manse fund was reported to be \$552.50

July 1947 to Dec. 1957

#### Board of Managers

A report of the picnic committee indicated over 100 attended and the cost to the church was \$21.00. The treasurer report was as follows:

Current Fund	721.50
Building Fund	611.26
Mission Fund	84.06

The board was to pay expenses of the Vacation Bible School Teachers and suggested that two desks be sold for a total of \$50.00 and the money from

this be used to buy 4 plywood tables. It was advised to Mr. Durst of Seaforth Church that we are unable to buy the organ due to the cost and the use that it would get. The church basement was authorized for use by the Provincial Election poll booths. It was recommended that the chimney at the rear of the church be repaired and that a committee be formed to complete general repairs to the church building. Robert Woolvet resigned as treasurer and Harry Warriner was elected to fill the balance of the treasurers' term. The treasurer report is as follows.

Current fund	853.91
Building fund	163.26
Mission fund	99.64

It was moved that an amount of \$225.00 be added to the \$175.00 the Lillian Quinn group had for floor tile and paneling for a total of \$ 400.00, estimated to purchase the materials. It was recommended that St. Lawrence property insurance be placed with Mr. Jack Burke with a sum of \$15,000.00 on the church building and \$2000.00 on the contents- agreed. The annual meeting is scheduled for January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1958 and all groups are to be advised for their year end reports. It was moved and accepted by the Board of managers that the envelope total givings be listed by number and amounts only, on the last page of the report.

Summation of the 1957 Annual meeting.

The minister Chas. Falconer, Rev. Kincaid interim moderator chaired the meeting and Mr. Norm Mac Arthur acted as secretary, John Main clerk of session gave the session report and pointed out the increase in membership with one wedding during the year and the regrettable passing of Mr. M. Mc Inroy.

Session--- Clerk Mr. J. Main  
Mr. Wm. Barkley  
Mr. Norm Mac Arthur

Board of Managers  
3yr. Mr. Wm. Barkley  
Mr. H. Warriner  
Mr. C. Pitt  
2yr. Mr. L. Donaldson

Secretary: Mr. Norm Mac Arthur  
Treasurer: Mr. H. Warriner  
Assistant treasurer: Mrs. Cal. Pitt  
Envelope Secretary: Mrs. R. Ward  
Assistant Envelope secretary: Mrs. M. McInroy  
Auditors: Mr. Don Marshall, Mr. John Kuyer  
Organist: Mrs. M. Wilkins  
Choir leader: Mrs. R. Ward

### Financial Report from the Board of Managers

Receipts		Expenses	
Balance	862.47	Balance	2,006.96
	4,120.81		2,976.32
Total	4,983.28		4,983.28

### Lillian Quinn Group

Receipts		Expenses	
Balance Forward	239.34	Balance forward	312.14
	837.23		764.43
TOTAL	1076.51		1076.51

### Sunday School Report

Receipts	Expenses
----------	----------

Balance forward	35.35
	231.40
TOTAL	266.65

Balance forward	48.02
	218.65
	266.65

Receipts from the Manse  
 Total 552.50

Expense Nil

Officers  
 Supt. J. Main  
 Asst. Mrs. W. Quinn  
 Secty. Mrs. M. Wilkins  
 Asst. Secty. Mrs. Cleve

Teachers  
 Miss. V. Foreman Miss Freman  
 Mrs. D. Ferguson Miss Lane  
 Mr. N. Mac Arthur Miss Frith  
 Mrs. Webster Mr. Bonn  
 Miss Schneider

### Session Report

	new	total
Members/Adherents	27	76
Deaths	0	1
Faith	10	35
Removed	0	
Baptisms	14	

### Mission Report

Receipts 203.11 to the missions

### Explorers report

Receipts 44.26  
Leader Miss. L. Scheider  
Asst. Mrs. Wm. Ireland

Expenses 44.26  
Members 17 weekly

Brownies 37<sup>th</sup> pack-25 members meet weekly  
Leaders- Mrs. Wm. Barkley, Mrs. J. Kuyer, Mrs. N. Putherbough

Jan to Dec 1958

Mr. Wm. Barkley acted as chairman, the board was divided into two committees

Finance Committee  
Chairman- John Kuyer  
Mac Hill  
Len Donaldson  
H. Warriner

Property House Committee  
Chairman- Wm. Ireland  
Keith Flannigan  
Cal Pitt  
Bob Woolvet

At a joint meeting of the Board of managers and session meeting with Rev. Kincaid and Rev. Waldie, it was explained the difference between an ordained minister and an ordained missionary. Mr. Chas. Falconer presented his resignation which Rev. Forth indicated would be accepted at the presbytery meeting March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1958. After some questions and discussion it was decided to request Presbytery for an ordained missionary to replace Mr. Falconer, one who was familiar with a suburban charge, to be appointed to the St. Lawrence congregation. It was suggested that a stipend of \$ 2,800.00 plus \$200.00 travelling expense and a car allowance of \$150.00 per annum as a mission charge. One month holiday with a paid supply and manse supplied. At the board of Managers meeting it was reported that the church telephone was removed due to the cost. An amount of \$150.00 was received from the Lillian Quinn Group for church alterations. Eighty sets of offering envelopes were authorized and Mr. Chas. Falconer was thanked for his past service and work with the St. Lawrence charge. Further services would be done by supply ministers at \$20.00 per week each week until one was appointed to the St.

Lawrence charge. These supply ministers included, Rev. Oakley, Rev. Nesbitt, Rev. Matheson, rev. Creight and Rev. Barkley. The church Bible school was held during the summer with average attendance of 55 pupils. A report on the manse committee and progress was given by Mr. N. Mac Arthur, the treasurer gave the financial account for December.

Current Fund	817.12
Building Fund	894.48
Mission Fund	4.18

It was moved to pay \$500.00 on a mortgage payment due of \$1000.00 with \$200.00 interest. It was recommended the piano be tuned and a new sign be erected for the church.

### The Lillian Quinn Ladies Group

A bazaar was planned for June and an additional \$75.00 was allotted towards the church building renovations. The treasurer reported a return of \$ 38.68 from the bake sale- for a balance of \$ 218.82. The Brownie banquet was to be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> and a blossom tea on May 15<sup>th</sup>. A rummage sale was planned for may 30<sup>th</sup> and \$200.00 was put into the manse fund. It was recommended that the men's group look after food and refreshments for the bazaar, the financial report indicated that there was a balance of \$171.51 in the men's account plus \$1,183.71 in the manse fund, while \$30.00 was sent to missions. The junior Choir gowns were discussed and new ones were to be made. Mrs. Doris Ward will act as junior choir leader assisted by Mrs. Wilkins.

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1958

Dr. Wm. Barkley was appointed as interim minister in charge of the St. Lawrence congregation and a special communion service was held by hi on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1958.

January 1959.

The annual meeting for 1958 was held at the church with Mr. N. McArthur as chairman and Mr. M. Hill as secretary. Dr. Barkley officiated as minister. A motion was made and accepted by all in attendance, That we accept a designation of high potential and undertake the responsibilities connected herewith and furthermore extend and promote a warm welcome to all former associates of St. Lawrence who may want to participate in the " New Beginning". Rev. Kincaid was relieved as moderator with S. Nissouri session and the entire responsibility of St. Lawrence was placed with Dr. Wm. Barkley as minister under Presbyterian Mission Board and London Presbytery.

!958 annual meeting Continued

#### Officers Elected

Board of managers: Mr. J. Kuyer, Mr. L. Donaldson, Mr. M. Hill  
Mr. H. Warriner, Mr. D. MacDonald, Mr.C. Pitt  
Mr. Don Webster, Mr. K. Flannigan, Mr. Wm. Ireland

Session: Mr. J. Main ( Clerk) Mr. N. Mac Arthur, Mr. Wm  
Barkley Transferred from New St. James.

Secretary Mr. K. Flannigan

Treasurer Mr. H. Warriner

Envelope Secretary Mr. Mac Hill

Auditors Mr. M. Wilkins, Mr. Ben Smith

Organist Mrs. M. Wilkins  
 Session Report Communion services -3  
 Certificated removed—8  
 Roll Loss—17  
 Baptisms—11  
 Deaths—1  
 Marriages—0  
 New Members—9  
 Members as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1959—52

Financial report

Board of Managers

Revenue receipts		Expenses	
Balance	1,936.98	Balance	1061.75
	3,135.90		3,991.13
TOTAL	5,052.88		5052.88

Missions

Receipts		Expenses	
Balance	203.11	Balance	71.18
	71.18		203.11
Total	274.29		274.29

Lillian Quinn Ladies Group

Officers: Pres. Mrs. Peter Johnson  
 Secty. Mrs. John Kuyer  
 Treas. Mrs.K. Flannigan

Receipts

Balance 312.14  
1581.44

Total 1893.58

Expenses

Balance 194.51  
1442.03

1893.58

Sunday School Report

Receipts

Balance 48.01  
222.31  
Total 270.33

Expenses

Balance 35.43  
234.90  
270.33

Officers: Supt. Mr. J. Main

Sec. Mrs. M. Wilkins

Pianist. Mrs. M. Wilkins

Teachers: Mrs. Norm MacArthur

Mrs. John Main

Miss. Irene Mills

Miss. I. Schneider

Mr. J. Main

Mr. E. Coffin

Mr. J. Routledge

Brownies 37<sup>th</sup> pack

Leaders: Mrs. J. Kuyer, Mrs. J. Langley

Members 24, meet weekly

Girls Explorers

Leaders: Mrs. N. MacArthur

Members 12 meet weekly on Monday at 4:30 P.M.

Girls Pioneers

Disbanded due to lack of leaders

Boys Club

Disbanded due to lack of leaders

Brownies

Disbanded due to lack of leaders as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1958

January-December 1959

**Lillian Quinn Ladies Group President Mrs. P. Johnson**

A bake sale was scheduled for Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> and conveners were Mrs. McIver and Mrs. Dalton. Rummage sale was set for November 13<sup>th</sup> and the spring tea to be held on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Receipts from Brownie Banquet were \$32.00- was well attended. Planned to provide corsage for Mrs. Gordier at the induction of Rev. G. A. Gordier, with a social evening to follow. The induction was to be convened by Mr. Russ Flanigan, Mrs. Pearce and Mrs. Johnson. The annual picnic is to be at Gibbons Park on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1959. At a special meeting held in conjunction with the board of managers, it was approved to purchase a new stove for the manse, also it was authorized to set aside \$50.00 from the manse fund for any incidentals required for manse use. A sum of \$100.00 was given to the board of managers for emergency use re the manse repairs or maintenance. A further donation was given to the board in the amount of \$200.00 towards a study for the manse basement. Moved and accepted was to send \$35.00 to the Toronto Missions and a church supper was planned for November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1959 with Mrs. Pearce as convener. A Bazaar was planned for November 27<sup>th</sup>, to be held in the

church basement. Receipts of \$85.36 were realized from the rummage sale and a further rummage sale was booked for April 22, 1960. A total of \$25.00 was allotted towards the Christmas concert and a tree.

Officers were duly elected for 1960 and Rev. G.A. Gordier was made honorary president. Officers elected were as follows:

President	Mrs. Pearce	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice		Mrs. Ireland
Secretary		Mrs. J. McLean
Corr. Secretary		Mrs. J. Mclean
Treasurer		Mrs. Olive Flannigan
Welcome and welfare		Mrs. Dalton, MacArthur and Main
Cards and Flowers		Mrs. Pitt
Ways and Means		Mrs. Don MacDonald, Mrs. Legue
Program Conveners		Mrs. Gordier, Mrs. MacArthur

January-December 1959

Session of St. Lawrence Report

Mr. G. A. Gordier preached for the call on March 19, 1959, he is currently in Alvinston with the Home mission Board. St. Lawrence to provide the manse and pay \$50.00 per month towards the stipend. 3 new members received and two elders nominated to session for St. Lawrence.

## Board of Managers Meeting report

Due to all members acting on various House and manse committees and attending various Presbytery and Mission board meetings, there were no Board meetings held until June 1959. During this period many long awaited projects and requests were accomplished. The prime one of these was to purchase a manse property, in order to call for a new minister for St. Lawrence. In order to accomplish this, the board applied to and received a loan in the amount of \$5000.00 from the London Presbytery Mission Board at an interest rate of 1% for 5 years through the Laymen's Extension fund of London. At this time a study of financial obligation revealed the following capital expenses.

- 1) Board of Missions, Toronto \$4500.00 re. the church first mortgage @ 4% interest. Note due December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1959 payments of \$50.00 per month plus interest
- 2) Laymen's Extension Fund, London @ no interest note due December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1960 \$3000.00 church mortgage \$40.00 per month no interest.
- 3) Laymen's Extension Fund, London \$5000.00 manse second mortgage @ 1% interest note due June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1964
- 4) Sun Life Assurance Co. Toronto \$ 9573.16, re. manse 1<sup>st</sup> mortgage @ 5.5% payable June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1981 @ \$109.00 per month P.I.T.

Manse located at 1221 Hillcrest Ave. London ,ON. Mr. Jim Weaver resigned as trustee due to a transfer to Brantford January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1959. After a call at the last Congregational meeting of St. Lawrence When Rev. Gordier preached for the call a recommendation was sent to the London Presbytery that Rev. Gordier be appointed to the St. Lawrence Charge. Presbytery after due consideration advised the congregation of their positive decision under the terms submitted. Reverend Gordier was appointed as the first resident minister to the St. Lawrence Congregation to be effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1959. the Gordiers took up residence in the new manse in June 1959 with their son and daughter.

A special welcome was extended to Rev. and Mrs. Gordier and family to get acquainted at a special social evening. A meeting of the sisseion and

the Board of managers was held to review and update procedures and to familiarize Rev. Gordier with procedures and the financial status of the congregation and the facilities. The treasurer gave a report indicating the current funds of \$ 923.77 and a building fund of \$398.58 for a total of \$ 1322.35. Sector plan for " Every Member Canvas" was discussed and plans were set in motion to participate in a stewardship Sunday on November 25, 1959. Plans were made for a study in the manse basement and a committee was set up to estimate materials and plans. At a second joint meeting of session and the board Mr. C. Pitt was chair and total revenue was reported to be \$ 1241.59. Mr. H. Warriner treasurer presented a letter from Toronto Church Extension dealing with a previous loan @ 4% interest amounting to \$90.00 plus a balance of \$4500.00, principal due in full December 1, 1959. Its importance was duly noted and moved to pay the interest in total of \$90.00 and \$400.00 on the principal due in the fall of 1959. A request was made for an extension of the due date on the note. Also approved was a payment of \$25.00 interest on a loan from the Laymen's Extension Fund, London and a bill for \$16.00 for repairs to the manse septic tank. Report on the minister's study from the committee indicated a plan to be 12' x 12' at a cost of \$200.00 for materials, work to be done by the men of the church or contracted by Mr. Jack Lawrence on a cost plus basis.

At a congregational meeting Rev. Gordier acted as Chairman with Mac Hill as secretary. John Main gave the session report with membership stated at 51. Mrs. Gordier reported on re-organizing the Explorer Girls group with 12 members. Mr. Main indicated an immediate need for Sunday School teachers for the growing number of pupils. Mr. John Kuyer tendered his resignation from the board but it was rejected. The entire report in all phases was approved and Rev. Gordier was re-appointed.

December 1959 officers appointed at the annual meeting

Minister—            Rev. G. A. Gordier

Organist-- Mrs. M. Wilkins  
Treasurer-- Mr. H. Warriner  
Env. Secty-- Mr. Mac Hill  
Auditors-- Mr. M. Wilkins/Mr. Ben Smith  
Membership report  
Total members 58 new 16 removed 9  
Baptisms 5 adults and 22 children  
Communion was held 4 times during the year  
Board of managers Elected for 3 years  
Mr. M. Wilkins  
Mr. Ben Smith  
Mr. Wm. Ireland

#### Session

Mr. N. MacArthur  
Mr. John Main  
Mr. Mac Hill

Reverend Gordier called for nomination of additional elders for the St. Lawrence session: nominated were Mr. Cal Pitt, Mr. John Kuyer, Mr. Mac Hill. Those nominated were to give due thought to the responsibilities of the church and advise Rev. Gordier if they would stand.

Ushers were appointed as follows:  
Ray Hatherall, Mr. C. Pitt, Mr. L. Donaldson, Mr. D. MacDonald, Jim McFadden, P. Higgins, Lyle Gordier, and Malcolm MacArthur.  
Times of service were changed with Sunday School to be held at 9:45 am and the church service to be at 11:00 am beginning the first Sunday in February 1960.

Financial Report - managers

Receipts Bal. Fwd. 1,061.75	Expenses- Bal. Fwd. 765.-82
Total 4,597.11      3,535.36	Total 4,597.11      3,831.29

Board of Managers

Mr. Geo. Hatherall	Mr. D. Lawrence	Mr. Wm. Ireland
Mr. Mac. Hill	Mr. H. Warriner	Mr. M. Wilkins
Mr. Ben McDonald	Mr. Cal Pitt	Mr. Ben Smith

Sunday school report

Receipts Bal. Fwd. 35.43	Expenses Bal. Fwd. 31.09
Total 262.05      226.82	total 262.05      230.96

Supt. Mr. John Main    Secretary treasurer Mrs. M. Wilkins

Teachers- Mr. John main, Mrs. J. Main, Miss. L. Schneider, Mrs. N. MacArthur, Mrs. W. Murray, Mr. Jim Routledge, Mrs. Elizabeth Lake.

Lillian Quinn Group

Receipts bal. Fwd. 194.51	Expenses Bal. Fwd. 1,551.94
Total 2,205.53    2011.02	Total 2,205.53      653.59

Brownie 37<sup>th</sup> Pack- no report

Explorers Girls- no report

Boy's Club- no report

Choir- no report

1960

Jan-Dec.

### Board of Managers

Treasurer report for January receipts \$ 808.46 and the manse study is in progress, also moved that the church entrance doors be renovated due to weathered condition. Seventy five sets of giving envelopes ordered, Mar. treasurer current \$224.86, building fund \$505.68, expenses \$175.21.

Moved that part payment of \$80.00 re moving the Gordiers' be cleared and agreed. Rev. Gordier to approach the ladies group to ask their assistance on payment of loans in as much as scheduled payments have not been met previously. June receipts were current 213.69 building 472.40 and expenses 187.29 and it was moved to purchase new solid slab doors for the church entrance. A sum of \$40.00 was allocated to the congregational picnic to be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Session report

In April, ten young people joined the church by profession of faith and there were sixty-six communicants at the service. In September an additional six members were received and in November the session with the Board of managers agreed to sponsor a new club pack with a group committed to ensure continuance.

### Lillian Quinn Ladies Group

Moved to allocate \$25.00 to the ways and means committee, Rev. Gordier who was the guest speaker indicated that the group should retain the original name, and it was so moved the group be known as the Lillian Quinn Ladies Group with representative affiliate with the W.M.S. New wallpaper

to be supplied for the manse dining room and the new Hi-Y Club was sponsored with a donation of \$5.00. A motion was brought forward to supply paint for the manse and a \$100.00 was set aside to the manse fund. Easter thanks offering planned for April 25<sup>th</sup> and a rummage sale scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup>. Suggestions were made that the church cleaning be done by the Men's and Women's on a scheduled organized program. Vacation Bible School was set for the lads two weeks in August and Mrs. E. Flannigan was presented with a life membership in the W.M.S. ladies' group, honouring her past and devoted service and work in the Ladies' group. Ladies approved purchase of a duplicating machine.

A mother and daughter banquet was planned for June 13<sup>th</sup> and donations of salads and cold meat was approved for the congregational picnic. Upon a review by Rev. Gordier the church financial situation it was decided that \$700.00 was to be taken from the Manse fund and that \$500.00 applied to the Presbyterian of Toronto loan, and \$100.00 to the London Presbytery loan and an additional \$100.00 to the London laymen's Extension Loan. Twenty dollars was set aside for vacation Bible School expenses and October 21<sup>st</sup> was set aside for the Bazaar. At the October meeting the men's committee for visitation canvas, were guests. A presentation was made by the men and a agreement was worked out to continue to work with the ladies. A fellowship tea was planned for November 15<sup>th</sup> and new members were welcomed at that meeting. Moved that an additional amount of \$15.00 be given to missions and \$20.00 was allotted for children's treats at the annual Christmas concert.

## 1960 Congregational Annual Meeting

The Rev. Gordier acted as chairman and Mr. Norm MacArthur was appointed secretary for the meeting. It was reported that the daily vacation Bible school had been 160 pupils and the Hi-Y Club had been a most successful venture for the young people of the congregation. The Girls Explorer group was re-organized. Rev. Gordier introduced the use of church calendars for order of service and notices of weekly activities and special noticed and Rev. Gordier was re-appointed as minister for the following year.

### Officers Elected

#### Board of Managers

1 year term- Mr. Geo. Hatherall

3 year term- Mr. Cal Pitt

Mr. H. Warriner

Mr. D. Lawrence

### Session Members

Mr. Norm MacArthur

Mr. Mac Hill

Mr. Jesse Clewlow

Mr. Geo. Hatherall

Organist Mrs. M Wilkins

Treasurer Mr. Geo. Hatherall

Env. Secretary Mr. Mac Hill

Secretary Mr. Mac Hill

### Financial report- managers

Receipts Bal. Fwd. \$765.82

Total 3,556.80      2790.98

Expenses Bal.Fwd. 291.46

3,556.80      3265.34

Lillian Quinn ladies Group

Receipts Bal. Fwd. 1529.94	Expenses Bal.Fwd 291.46
Total 1918.91      388.97	Total 1918.91      1225.55

Vacation Bible School

Receipts    69.46	Expenses 69.46
-------------------	----------------

Sunday School report- no. of pupils 105

Receipts bal. fwd. 31.09	exp. bal.fwd. 27.12
Total 269.05      237.96	total 269.05 241.93

An attendance incentive program has been put into cooperation with a pin awarded for each 13 consecutive Sundays, which has created keen interest among the younger pupils. During the year Miss. L. Scheider and Mrs. And Mr. Wallace Murray had to leave the church due to moves from the city.

Lillian Quinn Card and Flower Fund

Receipts bal. fwd. 5.59	Expenses bal. fwd. .41
Total 11.05      5.46	Total 11.05      10.64

During the year 12 birthday cards sent  
5 sympathy cards sent  
7 get well cards sent

Junior Choir

Pres. Miss. Janice McIntyre	Treas. Miss. Susan Wilkins
Receipts Bal. Fwd. 11.87	Expenses Bal. Fwd. 21.54
Total 22.36      10.49	Total 22.36      .82

New choir gowns were realized by raising money for material and with the help of the ladies gowns were made and dedicated on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Explorers Girls Group

Chief Explorers- Mary Jane Warriner  
Janice Mc. Intyre

Seretary- Bonnie McIver Treasurer Ruthilyn Johnston  
Leaders Mrs. G. Gordier and Mrs. W. Murray

Receipts	Membership	Expenses	Bal. Fwd.
36.83	28	36.83	24.78

Group represents girls 9-12 years of age

### Wolf Pack

#### Leaders

Mr. Cam Watt  
Mr. N. MacArthur  
Mrs. N. Mac Arthur

#### Group Committees

Chairman Mr. M. Wilkins  
Secretary Mr. C. Deacon  
Treasurer Mr. H. Armstrong

### Hi-Y Group

Meets monthly the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wednesday

Pres. Mr. Bob Kemble	Receipts 108.67
Secreary Joyce Andrews	Expenses 6.83
Treasurer Nina Higgins	Cash Bal. 101.84

This is a teenage group whose programs include speakers, crafts, technical and social programs, and contribute to the work of the church and its functions.  
Mr. and Mrs. Downie Lawrence assisted the group

1961

January-December

### Session Meetings

Eight new members were received on March 25<sup>th</sup> and two additional elders were added to the session on May 16<sup>th</sup>. New elders were ordained on July 16<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Jesse Clewlow was elected clerk of session on October 1<sup>st</sup> when five new members were received. Mrs. McCrimmon joined the church on Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, 1961

### The Lillian Quinn Ladies group

A clothing sale was planned for April 14<sup>th</sup> and \$100.00 was transferred to the manse fund. The women were now working on a quilting program and fresh flowers were planned for the Easter service. The explorers banquet was planned and \$15.00 was allotted for prizes for the congregational picnic. Ladies formed a work committee for painting pews and the church interior and a pot luck supper was suggested at the October meeting.

### The Lillian Quinn Ladies Group

Mr. MacArthur showed slides and gave a talk on his recent trip to Scotland and \$ 40.00 was allotted to Ewart College missions. The make-believe-tea-box plan showed receipts of \$30.80 and \$ 20.00 was allotted for Christmas treats. World day of prayer service was held at the church with four other churches represented. Officers were elected for the coming year with "Granny" Flannigan presiding in the chair.

Honourary President- Mrs. E. Flannigan

President- Mrs. Jas. Fulton

Vice President- Mrs. Stewart

Treas. Mrs. Olive Flannigan

Secretary- Mrs. Joyce McLean

Cards and Flowers Mrs. C. Pitt

Ways and Means- Mrs. Habkirk, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Mac Donald, Mrs. Legue, and Mrs. McIvor.

Program Conveners- Mrs. N. Mac Arthur and Mrs. Gordier.

Meetings were changed to the fourth Monday of the month

### Board of Managers

Mr. Mac Hill was elected as secretary for the year with Mr. D. Lawrence as chairman and Mr. Cal Pitt as Vice chairman. Managers meetings were changed to the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M., it was agreed that regular accounts be automatically paid during each month by the treasurer and the report be given at the following meeting. A February financial report indicated a bank balance of 272.84 with expenditures of 305.50, leaving the current account at 278.15 and the building fund with a debit of 8.75. Seventy five sets of giving envelopes were ordered and the church calendars to be sent out prior to the Sunday service to all members and adherents. The April bank balance was 237.46 and plans were made for a picnic at Gibbons Park on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Recommendations were made to the Lillian Quinn ladies group to take over the manse payments for two months with the May bank balance at 316.42. General upkeep and repairs on the church and the manse were planned. The September bank balance was \$ 178.18. the church interior and pews were painted with the help of the ladies group, the men painted the exterior over the summer period with several work parties and some humorous incidents occurring during these projects which many will remember. The year had been of one ever increasing but gradual progress with the financial position being better that the previous year. The following officers were elected for 1962.

### Board of Managers

Chairman- Mr. R. Wright

Treasurer- Mr. Geo. Hatherall

Secretary- Mr. Mac. Hill

Envelope Secretary- Mr. Mac. Hill

Members-

Mr. J.S. Stewart

Mr. Downie Lawrence  
Mr. Cal Pitt  
Mr. Wm. Ireland  
Mr. Morley Wilkins  
Mr. Ben Smith  
Mr. Jesse Clewlow

Mr. H. Warriner, past treasurer was given a vote of thanks for his devotion of duties for his past service.

Bank Balance for December was \$ 421.44

**"I can do everything through him who gives me strength."**

Philippians 4:13

Here now begins a synopsis for the following years 1963 to the present. It is hoped that the following will hi-light important events for the years and at the end of each year show those in leadership for St. Lawrence.

1963

The year reflected the struggles endured by this congregation as reported by the session report. The report indicates that there was a loss of members but not as extreme as in 1962. There was no young peoples' but there was hope to continue the program in the future. Communion cards were introduced to the congregation, there were 15 Baptisms. Total membership for the year stood at 73.

The minister for St. Lawrence was Rev. G. Gordier.

The board consisted of Eric Smart, Cal Pitt, Doug Mason, Robert Richmond, David Tennant, Jesse Clewlow, Morley Wilkins, Mac Hill and Les Findlay.

On the financial side St. Lawrence had revenues of \$3303.01, there was a shortfall in revenue to pay a loan to the Presbyterian Church of Canada for \$ 538.46. According to the documents the church had three loans- **one-** \$5000.00 to the Presbyterian Church of Canada balance outstanding of \$3,600.00- **two-** \$3,000.00 to the Presbytery of London with a balance outstanding of \$2,500.00- **Three-** \$5,000.00 to the Presbytery of London with a balance of \$4,800.00. The church also had a manse mortgage which was with Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada for \$ 9,596.17 of which there was a balance at the end of 1963 of \$ 8,532.27 for a total of Indebtedness of \$ 19,970.73

1964

If I may quote Rev. Gordier " 1964 will stand out as the year when the church appeared to burst forth with new life." The report indicated that attendance was constant and up from the previous year. Membership increased from 73 to 84. The church had an annual meeting which reflected the groups participating actively within the church, these groups were Explorers, Wolf Pack and the Lillian Quinn ladies group. One of the major projects for the year was the re-decoration of the church. This was re-dedicated on Easter Sunday.

The report from the treasurer indicated that revenue for the year was \$ 3,573.20 of which \$600.00 was the ministers' stipend. I was somewhat amused to see that the minister and the organist received a turkey for Christmas. Total insurance cost for the church and the manse came to \$ 93.87. St. Lawrence Church reduced the debt by \$911.52 for the year.

The superintendent for the Sunday School was Mr. Cal Withers, his staff consisted of Miss Nancy Tennant, Kathy Dahl, Jackie Hatherall, Janice McIntyre, Susan Wilkins and Shirley White. Mrs Gordier was the leader of the primary department. The church used duplicate envelopes which reflected an increase in donations. Secretary of the Sunday school was Mrs. M. Wilkins

1965

The annual meeting for 1965 business was held on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1966 at 8:15 at night and was adjourned at 10:00 p.m. There seemed to be a concern that the youth were not attending church. Rev. Gordier made this known in his pre-able in the report. He asked that envelopes be given everyone in order to increase givings by 10%.

The financial report indicated that the church had a total income of \$ 4,749.75 which included \$2,982.69 in envelope givings. There must have been a provincial election that year as there was reported income of \$72.00 from Polling booths, as part of the on going loan repayments the church reduced their debt by \$1,959.71 for 1965. Total assets for the year totaled \$ 25,478.08.

By reading the report it appears that the Lillian Quinn Ladies group are the strongest in the church, their receipts for the year were \$1,007.39, this money was raised through various fundraising efforts.

The proposed budget for 1966 was set at \$ 4,346.00 which included \$1,050.00 stipend for Rev. Gordier. Just as a side bar Rev. Gordier had a teaching degree and he was active in supply teaching for the London Board of Education, I know of this because he in fact taught me math at Beal Secondary school on a number of occasions.

1966

After a meal put on by the Ladies group the annual meeting for St. Lawrence convened on January 25<sup>th</sup> 1967 at 7:30, which incidentally began the centennial of our great country. Reverend Gordier reported that the membership had increased to 89 from 84. I can proudly say that I Harry Bergsma was one of those new members. It was also the year that I became a Canadian citizen by choice. The church was actively involved with Explorers and Cubs. This was the year that the church was painted by many volunteers I am sure, two stood out and they were Paul Wilkins age 15 at the time and a good friend Les Findlay who went to be with the Lord way too young.

The church had receipts in the amount of \$5,814.53 which included a generous donation for the building fund of \$1,000.00 from Mr. J.A. Morrison. The envelope offerings were \$ 3,236.59. The congregation approved a budget for 1967 of \$ 4,545.00 which included a stipend of \$1,200.00 for Rev. Gordier.

The Sunday school attendance was reported at 55 and the duties to instruct these children was privileged to Miss Susan Wilkins, Cathy Yeo, Miss Bonnie McIver, Miss Bonnie Elgie, Mrs. Ravensburg, Mr. Harry Bergsma, Mr. Cal Wither who was also the superintendant of the Sunday school.

1967

The annual receipts for the year were \$5,565.94 which included \$ 2,926.89 in direct envelope contribution for the church. The budget for 1967 was set at \$4,634.00 which included a \$100.00 raise for the minister for the year. By reading the report it showed that the church was growing although no new members were received there were more adherents as indicated by the size of the Sunday school which was at 64 for the year. A new teacher was received ( Mr. Paul Wilkins ) and the teachers were re-assigned to accommodate the increase in attendance. The debt from loans was reduced from \$ 15,264.71 to \$ 14, 022.85. This I believe was quite a feat given the income for the church and the other obligations it had. The church issued 56 envelopes for the year and listed all these plus showed what each envelope contributed.

Upon reading these annual reports, it reflects as it does today, that there are repeated names each year that are the ones that carry out the responsibilities of the church.

1968

This year reflected a more organized St. Lawrence as indicated by the annual report. It was more detailed and showed that others were getting involved in the church's activities. The session was listed and they were Mr. Akerstrom, Mr Mac Hill, Mr. Cal Withers and Mr. R. Henderson. Mr. Jesse Clewlow was the Clerk of Session. The organist was Mrs. Marg Harrower and the treasurer was Mr. Ralph Wilson. The church also appointed internal auditors they were Mr. Morley Wilkins and Mr. R. Henderson.

The session report indicated that there was an increase in membership of 11 individuals however there were also 11 removals. The session report was prefaced by "Are you satisfied with our efforts". This may be an indicator to the new faces for 1968. The board of managers had the following new faces,

Roy Harrower, Don Green, Archie Phillips, Les Findlay, Mrs. I Mac Crimmon, Sandy Ross, Mrs. M. Johnson and Ralph Wilson. It was also the year that St. Lawrence instituted the roles of trustees-they were Mr. Mac Hill, Mr. Jesse Clewlow and Mr. Morley Wilkins.

On the financial side the church had receipts of \$6,050.20 of which \$3,447.75 was received as offerings. The church's liabilities were reduced from \$14,022.85 to \$ 12,106.86. The budget for 1968 was approved at \$ 5471.00 which included \$1500.0 for Rev. Gordier, this represented a \$200.00 from the previous year. The presbytery assessment for 1968 was \$ 32.00. This was the year that the church had a rummage sale and a new roof was installed on the east side of the church. I can remember being on the roof helping and this disagreement broke out between Rev. Gordier and my father in law Morley Wilkins, being in my late teens I found this to be somewhat unnatural at a church gathering, anyway I do remember that a lot of help was available and the job was completed with handshakes all around

The Sunday school attendance dropped to 60 from 64 the previous year. There were new teachers installed as well, they were Laurene Higgins, Charmayne Marriot, Sharon Hatherall and Debbie Van Eeken.

It was noted that there was no church picnic this year due to other ongoing activities by the membership.

1969

This was a year of transition for St. Lawrence, Rev Gordier left our church in August to accept a charge in Dorchester. The session submitted a letter to the Presbytery requesting that St. Lawrence become a two point charge with Knollwood Presbyterian Church. Approval was received and Rev. Tom Duke was inducted as the minister in a special service on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Membership was reduced from 89 to 85. There were 3 received into membership and 7 removed from the roll.

The Sunday school enrollment was reduced to 53 from 60 the year before. New teachers installed were Miss. Beverly Pethic and Mrs. Betty Favell.

The receipts for the year were reported as \$ 5,086.72 of which \$2957.75 were envelope offerings. The debt of St. Lawrence was reduced by only \$ 536.00 . The congregation approved a budget of \$ 5,185.00 for 1969.

The church also formed a scout troop under the leadership of Mr. Carl Hansen, there were 22 cubs and 17 scouts.

On a personal note- the year presented St. Lawrence with somewhat of a dilemma due to the fact that we did not have a full time minister. Having a two point charge meant that others would need to step up and take on roles of leadership because of this situation.

1970

As this year begins the leaders of the church express many concerns regarding St. Lawrence. In the session report it is noted that there were 5 communion services held with a not so favourable attendance. The membership of the church was reduced from 85 to 81. The year instituted new ideas which were presented by the Board of Managers. Some of these were- that a teller system be set up for the responsibility of the Sunday offering. That there be a committee of greeters formed so that each individual be greeted as they entered the church, a faith in action chart be placed in the church entrance indicating the financial progress of the church, a new sign to be installed at the front of the church, the manse be refurbished through painting etc. by the tenants and that the church supply the materials, the roof of the manse was reshingled, that a general letter be prepared by the board outlining the building repairs and maintenance to all group using the facility and the responsibility of each group when it comes to church use.

It reflects to me that there were issues arising in the church that were of some concern to the leaders. Church attendance was down and the resources to operate ministries were lacking. Envelope givings were at around \$200.00 per month. A few stepped up when it came to repairs around the church and the manse. The manse rental accounted for \$ 1,920.00 of income for the year for the church. Full time leadership seemed to have taken a toll on the church. There are still those who are giving 100% plus to the church. Revenues for the year was at \$ 5,898.86 . The debt was reduced by \$ 457.00. The budget approved by the congregation was \$ 6,500.00, this increase from last years' budget is due to the cost of the manse. The congregation is now a landlord. This is also the year that Erma Pritchard became a member of the Board.

1971

The annual meeting was held on February 3 with 15 members in attendance. It was a meeting of great concern as I read the reports from the responsible committees of the church. There seemed to be a great concern about the two point charge when it came to having the minister available at the end of the service due to his commitment to Knollwood. It was suggested that the service start 15 minutes earlier to allow for this time of greeting, this was passed by the congregation and accepted by Rev. Duke. Membership of the church was reduced from 81 to 74. A big concern was that even though there were 74 members the attendance was dismal to say the least sometimes as few as 15 people would be in church a suggestion was made to send out letters to all members indicating the role of the church in the family unit. This was the year that Erma Pritchard was elected to the session of the church.

In a report from the trustees the church received a bequest from the estate of Alice Canham shares of stock in American natural Gas. This has generated revenue through dividends of about \$92.00 for the year giving the trustee account a balance of \$882.49. Revenue for the year amounted to \$6553.32 which included \$ 1,920.00 rent from the manse. The debt was reduced from \$ 11,028.27 to \$ 9,468.77 showing the commitment by the congregation. The budget for the year was \$ 7,650.00 and the minister's stipend was \$ 2,000.00.

1972

As I read the report from the annual meeting it is noted that a major victory has occurred at the church, one of the loans has been repaid with the generous assistance of the Lillian Quinn ladies group, this reduces the church debt to \$8,110.98 from \$ 9,859.98, I am sure this significant change came as welcome relief to the church. The church now had two loans remaining one for \$ 4,740.79 at 5  $\frac{1}{4}$ % which is for the manse and the other is for \$ 3,370.19 at

1% for the manse. Receipts for the year amounted to \$7,293.24 of which \$3,516.25 was envelope givings and \$1,737.00 from the manse rental.

The session reported that they met 16 times during the year and that they are concerned about attendance at church services and the need for leadership for ministries ongoing at the church. It is due to the lack of volunteers that the Scout Troop is currently inactive. The Sunday school is concerned about attendance as well and are planning a membership drive. It is evident by reading this report that the Lillian Quinn Ladies Group are certainly a great force in the church when it comes to fundraising.

Renovation plans were in the works, one item was to enlarge the vestibule and install a partition at the rear of the church to house Sunday school classes. The pews would be removed but can be put back in place should plans change.

1973

The year was highlighted by a service that incorporated a burning of the mortgage. The Lillian Quinn ladies Group had contributed the money needed to pay off one of the loan that the church had. I believe that this service instilled a positive outlook for the members by feeling a sense of accomplishment.

At the annual meeting there was discussion about renovations to the church. I remember being part of this. The stairs to the basement at the front of the church and cupboards which were located at the front were disassembled and the area was opened up to increase the basement space. I can remember being given 2 ends of the old pews which were in the church at that time. This renovation was completed by volunteers in the church and they had budgeted \$800.00 for this project. At a time where attendance was low this project energized many of the congregation and got them involved in the church.

The church launched a " Congregation Action Committee" and produced the inaugural newsletter for St. Lawrence under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Ross. At this time the number in the congregation was 67 and I believe that these tools were put in place to increase membership.

The receipts for the year were \$ 7,183.70 with the givings representing \$ 3,446.35 and manse rental at \$1,930.00. The Board of Managers received a "loan" from the trustees account to cover some of the costs for the renovation of the church. The congregation had raised \$719.00 over the years and rather than borrow from the bank the money was borrowed from the trustee account at 5% interest. Total debt for the church was \$ 7,756.76

1974

Major transaction for this year was the sale of the manse for \$35,000.00, this money allowed the church to retire all debts outstanding. After the debt were made \$11,000.00 was invested in a GIC at 10% per annum and \$15,000.00 was loaned out as a mortgage to John and Francis Keith at 11% per annum The \$2,600.00 per year was directed to the general expense of the church. It was decided that the interest on the GIC and the givings of \$3,900.00 would be the budget for the year, the total of \$ 6,500.00 would allow the church to eliminate any additional funds from internal or external sources therefore they were able to maintain some financial stability.

The outside of the church was sided with aluminum resulting in a fresh new appearance the electrical service was also updated at this time.

A member of faith program was carried out by visitation to all members to encourage the church life. It was hoped that the program would make serious commitment to 25 to 30 families to keep the church active.

Plans were put together for the celebration of the centenary for the Presbyterian Church of Canada in 1975 this would also be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Lawrence.

Income for the year was \$ 8,652.53 which included \$ 3,465.30 in givings and \$1,400.00 from the manse. I found it somewhat difficult to understand that the church would loan money, (\$15,000.00) out for a mortgage although the return of 11% was attractive. Looking back this money would be the catalyst for a major renovation in the future.

## 1975

According to the minutes of January 23<sup>rd</sup> this was the year that Ben Ormseth became a member of the board of managers. This meeting started at 6:30 and finished at 9:35. Total members for the year was,58. Income for the church was \$ 8,373.74 which included \$ 3,107.74 in givings. The congregation's equity was \$ 42,545.80 and the budget was set at \$ 7,155.00

One thing that caught my eye was the Lillian Quinn Ladies group, it was noted that their attendance was down to an average of 6 attendees per meeting. Given that this group had been a major force in the church I wonder what effect it will have on the church in 1975.

## 1976

The session reported that their oldest member had past away. Mrs. Margaret Flannigan died September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1976. I remember her as a stalwart independent lady who was very devoted to St. Lawrence. It was a year that there was more amalgamation between Knollwood and St. Lawrence with the young peoples and the sharing of services such as Good Friday and Christmas Eve. This was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church and it was celebrated in

November with the guest speaker being Rev. P.L. Sams the Chaplain at C.F.B London. The total number of member was 61.

The treasurer reported that the total income for the year was \$10,216.52 which included \$4,243.25 in envelope givings, interest from the GIC and loan amounted to \$2809.47. The congregation equity amounted to \$ 44,021.88 and the budget was set at \$9,160.00

Major renovations were completed and gratitude was expressed to Morley Wilkins for all of his hard work in this matter. A new sign was purchased and installed at the church as well.

1977

The cross that is at the front of the worship area was purchased this year and was dedicated to Mrs. Alice Canham (at the November 20<sup>th</sup> service), who had left the church a bequest earlier.

The cross was purchased from Kernohan Lumber at Central and Adelaide Streets. I remember installing the cross with piano wire that was threaded through the ceiling and fastened to the upper rafters.

This was also a year in which the church was hooked up to the city sanitary sewer system at a cost of \$2,000.00. The cost for the new sign was \$600.00. There were five vacancies for the board of managers. The Lillian Quinn ladies group was officially renamed as the Ladies Group.

In the session report it was noted that there was a real concern about "apathy" in the church and could be done to get more members out to church each Sunday, the work of the church is being carried out by the same year after year.

The envelope givings were up 14% from the year before and the total receipts were \$ 11,104.04. The budget was set at \$ 10,160.00. The area around St. Lawrence Church ( 92 acres) was approved by the city to go ahead with development due to this the city needed to purchase .0418 acres from the church at a cost of \$ 1821.00 to widen Huron Street. The church saw this development as a positive sign to increase membership for the church.

1978

The session of St. Lawrence consists of Mr. Jesse Clewlow Clerk, Mr. Mac Hill, Mr. Ron Leitch, Mr. Cal Withers and Mrs. E. Pritchard.

The members of the board of managers were Mr. I Leacy, R. Wilson, J.Mwenifumbo, R. Leitch, Mr. Hill, Mr. Wilkins, Mr. Ross, Mrs. E Pritchard, Mr. Ormseth, Mr. Martin, Mr. MacIntosh and Mr. Jewlal.

Trustees were Mr. Wilkins Chair, Mr.Clewlow Treasurer and Mr. Mac Hill.

Auditors were Mr. Wilson and Mr. Withers envelope secretary is Mr. M. Hill

You can see that many are wearing different hats.

At the annual meeting the congregation approved the sale of the property to the city and that a fence was to be installed along the west side of the church land.

It is noted in this report that the session met 21 times during the year to conduct the business of the congregation. There were 6 communion services. Mr. Ben Ormseth was appointed to superintendant of the Sunday school and he became the chair of the board of managers as well.

The year saw the loss of Rev. Tom Duke from the St. Lawrence congregation as I read the document Rev. Murdo Pollock has been appointed as interim moderator for St. Lawrence.

1979

The year saw the appointment of a moderator for St. Lawrence Rev. Evan H. Jones. This annual report went into great detail about the work of Rev. Duke when it came to visitation it listed pastoral and shut visitations that he had made. Rev. Duke had instituted the sacrament of communion 19 times throughout the year and made a total of over a 125 visitations. He conducted a total of 9 funerals and 3 weddings. I was interested to read that the money received for these functions were part of the church revenues. As an item in the annual report the question arose as to where this money was the money was used by Rev. Duke for benevolence and the balance given to the treasurer. The session reported that there were 58 members as of Dec. 31, 1979. One sad note was the passing of a longtime member Mrs. Matilda McIvor. The new sign was completed due to the diligent work of Rob. MacIntosh. The Board approved that St. Lawrence contribute one third of the joint operating expenses to Knollwood and that this will continue for this year as well. The land transfer (.0418 acres) was now in the hands of the solicitor John Driesman who was waiting for final word from the city.

The mortgage on the manse was paid out in the amount of \$14,037.00 this amount and the other GIC have been amalgamated into a 5 year debenture. It is this wise investment strategy at that time that has made St. Lawrence into what it is today with regard to its building. Revenue for the year amounted to \$10,778.14 of which \$ 4,301.92 was envelope donations. The budget for St. Lawrence was set at \$ 13,000.00 a 20% increase of the previous year.

1980

This year saw some major changes for St. Lawrence, three new elder were elected they are Mr. Ben Ormseth, Mr. John Woolcock and Mrs. Elizabeth Leitch. Mr. Jesse Clewlow resigned at clerk of session after 19 years of continuous service the position was taken over by Mr. Cal Withers. Mrs. V Wikins was thanked for her 26 years of being the organist for the church she was replaced by Ms. Olive Donaldson.

There are some other issues on the forefront for St. Lawrence in the coming year. The reserve fund for the sewer is at \$4,000.00. Renovation are to be made to the kitchen area of the basement due to an oil leak. The oil furnace will be replaced by a gas one and the government will contribute \$ 700.00 for the conversion. A major effort will be made to increase givings to the church.

The number of members increased to 68.

The total receipts for the year were \$ 12,292.14 of which \$6,300.22 were envelope givings. St. Lawrence total assets were now \$ 49,605.82.

1981

A new moderator came to St. Lawrence Rev. Arn Fraser. Rev. Jones has accepted a position as Chaplain at Westminster Campus of Victoria Hospital.

In the Board report it was noted that the congregation of St. Lawrence responded positively to increased givings. Many goals were met and the finances of the church improved considerably. The receipts for the year were \$ 14,122.63 of which \$6,786.42 were envelope givings. All major projects were completed, the sewer, furnace and renovations- special thanks were given to Mr. Wilkins, Mr. Hatherall and Mr. J. Woolcock for their work in these projects.

1982

Rev. Sandy Beaton was inducted as the pastoral charge for St. Lawrence and Knollwood on August 4<sup>th</sup>. The membership rose from 62 to 77 for the year. It was noted from the Board of Managers report that the session was trying to implement a revision of responsibilities for the board of managers. The board has reservation about these revisions, one issue was the continuity of activities currently handled by the board and possibly implementing necessary actions due to multiple committees having to review and approve actions by the board. Mac Hill the long time secretary resigned his position. A five year review was done by the chair of the board reflecting that cost have risen dramatically while income has remained low in relationship to these increase costs. Income from envelope giving was \$ 9626.75 while expenses were at \$14,263.46, bank interest on the \$26,500.00 debenture was \$ 2,925.68 for the year. It is noted that the Ladies group again was a major force in the church's financial picture the balance for the year was \$ 1,757.53 of which \$1,100.00 came from the fundraisers I noted that the figure of \$ 1,757.53 did not show as an item in the total assets of the church. It looked as if each group had their own financial account.

The Sunday school had 21 students with 3 teachers looking after the students.

1983

As with organization there are obstacles to be overcome. This was no different with St. Lawrence there was a struggle with the role of the board and according to the annual report heated discussion was held as to the viability of the board. The congregation voted to veto a motion by Cal Withers to form a new committee which essentially would replace the board. A motion was made by Morley Wilkins and seconded by Ben Ormseth to dissolve the board and replace it with a new board which would consist of 4 members a treasurer and secretary plus a stewardship and budget committee member from the session. No action was taken on this motion. Ian Leacy suggested that the current

members who were resigning not be replaced and leave that number at 8 and that the session and the board meet in three months time to go over the responsibilities of the board. This motion carried.

A new document was introduced by Cal Withers to amalgamate the congregations of St. Lawrence and Knollwood churches due to many reasons as listed out in the annual report. Parking, attendance and financial issues were the major reasons for the proposal. This proposal remained open for now.

A new member of session was installed-Sharon Leacy.

Members for the board were- Mr. Leacy, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Leitch, Mr. Rowe, Mr. Rosendal, Mr. Bielac, Mr. Bryant, Mr. Gowing.

Resigned members were Mr. Ormseth, Mr. Martin, Mr. Woolcock and Mr. Wilkins.

Revenue for the year was \$ 20, 315.03 which included \$ 12,171.97 in envelope givings. Total congregation assets were \$59,908.27 which did not include the assets of the ladies group and men's group or the Sunday school.

This was the year that the Alpha-Omega men's group was formed with John Bryant as President and Ralph Wilson as secretary. There was also a worship committee formed which consisted of Cal Wither as Session representative and Betty Findlay, Olive Donaldson and Margaret Kelly as members. The role of this committee was to study and report on congregational worship, to examine the order of worship and to suggest modifications which the committee feels will improve the climate for worship.

1984

The year revealed that it was the year of new beginnings for the church, this is the year that the "Fall Colour Tour " began thanks to the organization of Erma Pritchard. It is also the first documented indication of Christmas tree sales. The board of managers purchased the rear of a truck body as a new shed for the church. The Christmas tree sales realized a profit of \$4,074.81 they continue on today (2010) 26 years later. This was also the year that a building fund was established by the congregation.

A major issue brought forth last year was the proposed amalgamation between St. Lawrence and Knollwood churches, this issue was brought before that congregation and all members were contacted and voted on this issue, the result being 26 in favour and 58 against.

Mrs. Elizabeth Snider had been retained to canvass the area around the church to try and secure new members. A committee was set up to consider new facilities or a building committee per say. The committee consisted of Cal Withers ( chair), Jesse Clewlow, Morley Wilkins, Obie Rosendal, John Woolcock, David. Rowe, Ginnie Wilkins, Catherine Dingman.

Receipts for the year were \$27,926.45 which included \$ 14,686.10 from envelope givings and \$4,000.00 for building reserve. The budget was set by the congregation at \$ 26,355.00 which was an increase of almost 30% over the previous year. The front entrance of the church has been addressed-a quote was given for \$3,000.00 to do this work.

It is evident by the ambition of the congregation that they are a unified group anxious to move ahead with the work of God in the community

1985

Some of the good planning of St. Lawrence is starting to pay off the membership increased to 93 up from 77. Number of elder is 7 and Erma Pritchard became the clerk of the session. The Sunday school attendance rose to 33 from 21 and there were 6 teachers.

The treasurer's report indicated income from all aspects of the church this is the first time that the different groups of the church had their income included on the financial statement. Total receipts for the year were \$29,534.54 with \$ 14,567.58 from envelope givings. Due to the current high interest rates the investment from the debenture was earning \$ 2,596.17.

The board had assembled a wish list which contained the following

- 1- new organ \$3,000.00 to \$ 8,000.00
- 2- New piano for the basement \$ 500.00
- 3- Rewiring the church \$ 1,500.00 to \$3,000.00
- 4- Repanel the basement \$600.00 to \$ 800.00
- 5- Improve Narthex lighting \$ 100.00 to \$ 200.00
- 6- Repaint the interior of the church \$200.00 to \$ 700.00
- 7- New pews

A building committee was assembled by resolution of the annual meeting last year. Chairperson Ralph Wilson presented a report on possible expansion of the church and funds available from church sources. Result was that all the issues brought forth by the committee were put on hold and that when the financial position of the church improved it would look at the recommendations made by the committee. It was also recommended that the committee dissolve.

The Christmas tree sale profit for 1985 was \$ 5,813.85

1986

The session numbers totaled 13 they included new members- Mrs. Virginia Wilkins, Mr. John Gowing, Mrs. Ethel Childerhose, Mr. John Bryant and Mr. Louis Bielac. The board of managers had 10 members.

Last years wish list was met with positive results. A new organ was purchased, a new keyboard for the Sunday school, the church was rewired, lighting was improved in the narthex and a new fridge was installed in the kitchen. All these projects were completed with the help of the men's and ladies groups

Total receipts for the year were \$35,518.59 of which \$ 18,626.58 came from envelope givings. Total congregational equity was \$ 91,278.02  
Christmas tree profit for 1986 was \$ 8,766.40

1987

The year saw the death of two of its long standing members Mr. Mac Hill and Mr. Morley Wilkins.

The report from the board indicates that the services are full and "bursting at the seams " urgent planning is required in planning for the future. It is anticipated that the church will become a single charge soon.

The Alpha Omega group is contributing largely to the church finances with their major fundraiser the Christmas tree sales. The men's club prepared meals for the annual meeting and the anniversary Sunday.

The receipts for the year amounted to \$34,596.31 of which \$ 20,197.50 was from envelope givings. The budget for the year was set at \$32,360.00  
Profit from the Christmas tree was \$ 12,720.43. St. Lawrence equity was at \$105,481.73

1988

St. Lawrence has a new interim moderator Rev. Ivan Dambrowitz, and the church was given official status as a single point charge on October 30. The Alpha Omega club donated \$1,500.00 to the Children's telethon and \$1,450.00 to Camp Trillium through BBQ's throughout the year. The Christmas tree sales realized a profit of \$7,539.86.

The year is indicative of not having a minister to lead the congregation even though the finances are in good condition not much work was done to the church building. I feel that the congregation is anticipation the coming of a new minister to lead them. A new pulpit was purchased in memory of Morley Wilkins.

1989

A new era is about to begin for St. Lawrence- a new minister has arrived directly out of Knox College Rev. Mark Gedke and his wife Anne. Rev Gedke was inducted on September 17. It is also noted the role of Ben Ormseth, Ben is on the session, the acting Sunday school superintendant and secretary on the board of Managers and the memorial fund convener when they go Ben, also for her first term Nancy Springer started on the board.

Total receipts for the year amounted to \$42,518.43 of which \$ 28,486.74 were offerings. Total assets for the church amounted to \$ 166,147.90 which included \$126,705.76 in GIC and general funds account. The budget set by the congregation was \$ 53,265.00 the minister salary was \$ 36,000.00. This was a very big year for the Alpha Omega club when it came to the tree sales total trees sold were 2400 and receipts for the trees was \$ 55,770.41 with a profit of \$19,946.24 wow what a job. Not to be outdone by the men's club the Ladies club had a banner year selling pies and boy are they good, they made a total of \$ 2,821.89 now that is a lot of " dough". The church congregation was involved in many projects. The Alpha Omega made donations to the Sick Children's

Hospital, to the benevolent fund, Camp Trillium, Ladies Group, bought a \$5000.00 GIC and transferred \$17,065.00 to the trustees account.

1990

The financial report of the church is very healthy, many hands make little work surely applies to St. Lawrence. Looking at the committees and leadership of the church there are a lot of individuals taking on these roles. By reading the annual report one can feel this comfort in the church, there is permanent leadership with a permanent minister, committee group are working well and finances are good. Nancy Springer has become the chair of the Board of Managers. Ruth Gowing passed away this year as did Ginnie's sister May Vivian. Mark has really shown his leadership in developing youth programs and overall leadership for the church.

An important meeting was held regarding a relocation of the church sort of an amalgamation with another north end church, after much discussion it was left as the status quo, many liked the small church feel where everybody knows your name.

The Alpha Omega group was in full swing with BBQ rentals, Children Hospital donations, Food Bank support, Pancake supper, Steak BBQ. And Christmas tree sales. The tree sales raised \$ 23,532.75 a new record I am sure. Just image the number of trees there must have been I think it was 2750. Total income raised by the men's club alone was \$ 30,783.71. They were able to turn over \$10,000.00 to the general fund and \$39,000.00 to the trustees.

The Ladies group continued as well with their fundraising project, they had card parties and made lots of pies. Total income from pies was \$3,882.17, the ladies were able to transfer \$1500.00 to the general fund and \$3500.00 to the trustees account. The trustee account was now set at \$ 108,961.18 in GIC's and investment debentures.

1991

I was moved by the letter of our minister Rev. Mark Gedke in the annual report in it he states a quotation of one of the founding members of the church Kay MacArthur it reads as follow,

***"THE MEN FELT THAT THERE WAS SOMETHING THEY COULD DO AND ENERGIES WENT INTO MEETING AND PLANNING AND THEN REALLY HARD LABOUR- FOR MONEY WAS SCARCE. THROUGH ELMWOOD AVE. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CAME THE "GUN CLUB" AND THE MEN FROM THERE GAVE HELP IN MOVING AND SETTING IT UP. PEWS CAME FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE AND ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH LOANED US AN ORGAN. THE LADIES DID A LOT OF PAINTING AND CLEANING.... FROM ALL OF THIS WE WENT ON TO HAVE A MISSION GROUP, A CHOIR, AN EXPLORERS GROUP OF GIRLS. WE HAD A BROWNIE GROUP. NOW YOU ARE CARRYING ON AND IT SEEMS THE SAME SPIRIT OF WORKING TOGETHER PERSISTS."***

Having known Auntie Kay for some time I can hear her speaking those words and the hard work she herself put into the formation of the church.

Mark's response to this was- " One of the wisest things we can do is listen to the stories of our elders by this action, we can remember the saints of the our church and the many gifts they have passed down to us."

The roll at the end of the year was set at 98. Commencing in September there were two Sunday services 9:30 and 11:00 AM on a trial basis for one year. The average attendance was 20 at the first and 65 at the second. Murial Ireland became the treasurer of the church.

Reading the Christmas tree report it indicated that the project was a success even through an economic recession. In 1990 2000 trees were purchased and a profit of \$23,000.00 was realized. It was pointed out that the lot was open on two Sundays in the afternoon compared to one last year. 1991 Christmas tree sales were \$19,035.09.

The ladies group had a total of 5 pie making sessions generating a profit of \$ 4,467.30. Total income for the year was \$ 75,706.34 with \$ 31,733.09 coming from envelope donations.

1992

Two new members were added to the session, they are Mr. Cal Withers and Mrs. Nancy Springer. The board added Mr. Mac Coghlin, Mr. George Gooch, Mrs. K. Parker and Mrs. S. Parker.

This is the year that an official building committee was established, the committee would prioritize as to what was to be needed for expansion to the church. The main and most important issue was to make the building fire safe and handicapped accessible. The committee visited 5 churches that are undergoing expansions at this time, collect information from them and apply these to our church. A survey was sent out to 100 members indicating the needs for church expansion besides the ones already mentioned.

Although there were cooperative activities in the church I felt that by reading the annual report there was some stagnation. The tree sales produced \$ 9,706.40 in profit and the ladies group had a healthy \$ 4,726.02 in pie sale profit. Total income for the year amounted to \$65, 594.36 down 15% from the year before. Total expenses were up to \$72, 552.69 from \$ 62,053.67 due mostly to a permanent minister.

1993

The board added two new members they are Mr. Mark Prive and Mr. Dave Dwyer. The Christmas tree project continues to be the major fundraiser for the church this year a total of 1665 trees were ordered and 40 were unsold these were given to the food bank (12) and to the Oneida reserve (26) the profit from the sales were \$ 15,656.74

The Ladies group made a total of 1648 pies for the year with many involved in this process. Thanks go out to Mr. Storey for his ingenuity in the building of the automated apple peelers the profit for the pies was \$ 5,870.34.

There was a new treasurer for St. Lawrence - Mrs Marion Anderson.

The Building Committee went ahead with session permission to get proposed drawing made up for expansion to the church. There was some concern as to the cost of these drawings. The architects pointed out the fire code issues that were evident in the church, these issues were already realized by the committee in the early stages of research.

Total income for the year was \$ 82,723.84 of which \$38,798.11 was from envelope donations. The expenses were \$71,682.71. It is evident by the numbers the impact the two major fundraisers have on the church, pies and trees totaled almost \$22,500.00 which represents almost 20% of the total income.

1994

The membership totaled 124 up from 111 the year before. Some changes occurred in the Board of managers, the board was reduced to 8 members of which Dave Dwyer and Ron Tree were newcomers. George Goor became the chair for the board. Cal Wither retired from the building committee and Dave Dwyer, Mac Coghlin and Ginny Wilkins were added.

The Christmas tree fundraiser was a success again and raised \$ 14,566.00 for the church, a total of 1566 trees were ordered and 15 were given to charities. The ladies made 1623 apple, blueberry and cherry pies for the year realizing a profit of \$ 5,696.87

The youth group continued to be an active part of the church. They participated in many events including a fasting of 30 hrs for Third world countries. They sang at Kensington and prepared meals. The new group leader of the group is Erika Bergsma.

The building committee reported the following- bringing the building to code would cost \$ 13,000.00, a 1300 sq.ft. addition with elevator would be \$ 105,000.00 , a 1520 sq.ft. addition would be \$ 145,000.00, to bring the building up to code and raise funds for a new brick building would run \$600,000. An additional 13% architects fee would be on top of those costs. The congregation decided that another meeting would be in order to discuss these issues.

At this special meeting discussion was had and the decision was made to establish a building committee to consider the different building options and recommend one option to the congregation which will include a basic plan on how the project can be financed.

1995

New member to the session was Margaret Stewart and to the board were Mrs. Helen Schriver and Mr. Harry Bergsma. The building investigation committee worked hard during the year and through thorough investigation presented to the congregation a recommendation that MCI propose a plan for our church. This was approved by the congregation. A new committee was set up called the " Building Fund Raising Committee "

Members of this committee were Sue and Harry Bergsma, Janice Blanchette, Betty Feist, Helen Schriver and Ron Tree. One of the first items was a giant yard sale, special envelopes were placed in the pews and penny banks were made up. At the end of the year the balance in the fund was \$10,490.54.

Our fundraisers proved a successful year again with the 1500 trees realizing a profit of \$14,079.00 and the pies generating \$ 5,703.54. Total assets for the church were \$ 182,161.50. We had total investments of \$ 133,790.89.

1996

The session added two new members they are Mr. Paul Schell and Mr. Robert Atkinson. Activity in our church seemed to be flourishing as the anticipated growth of the church is the highlight. We are all excited with the changes that are going to take place and all the work by everyone is appreciated. MCI is putting together possibilities for our church and these have been related to the congregation. The Building Fund Raising Committee through the leadership of session representative Erma Pritchard is continuing fundraising activities. The balance in the account at the end of the year was \$25,243.00. The amount is updated monthly and is displayed on the back wall in the form of a thermometer. Having the number on the wall inspires individual to give to this worthwhile cause.

The Alpha Omega group ordered 1375 trees and made a profit of \$13,633.89 which was down slightly from the previous year, 120 trees remained unsold .the ladies made a record 1878 pies which brought in a total of \$ 6,111.46.

When you see the overall committees, there is evidence of many involved in all aspects of church life. It does not appear that a few are doing a lot instead a lot are doing everything. This family unity reflects the positive outlook and desires that everyone has in their sights.

The youth of the church are busy fundraising for a trip to Guatemala in March their enthusiasm is definitely overflowing to the rest of us.

1997

The building investigating committee chaired by Dave Dwyer had a very active year a great deal of background work was undertaken in an effort to determine the most appropriate building option for the church. In addition they pursued and applied for two low interest loans from the presbytery. The culmination of this background work occurred on November 30 when the congregation overwhelmingly approved a building design. The plans were submitted to the National Presbyterian Church on Architecture and were approved shortly thereafter.

The roll for St. Lawrence stood at 137 up from 128 the previous year. The excitement of the new addition of the church continued to be reflected in the fundraising, the Alpha Omega's sold 1400 trees for a profit of \$ 15,513 and the ladies group made a new record 1971 pies (1274 apple, 302 cherry, 221 blueberry and 174 mince meat) for a profit of \$ 7,438.74. Total income for the year was \$ 98,199.04 envelope donations were \$ 57,811.86, to put the two major fundraising projects in perspective they amounted to almost 50% of the envelope donations.

The youth group continued strong with a retreat to Crieff Hills outside of Guelph. Mark and Andrea Depuis were able to go to Guatemala in March with the help of fundraising by the youth. The youth group meets on Sunday night for activities and Bible studies.

1998

Let me begin by quoting Dave Dwyer from his report, "This past year was an extremely busy, yet rewarding year for the Building Committee at St. Lawrence. We finalized a building plan, secured financing and witnessed the expansion and upgrade of our Church building" This work was started in May and was mostly completed by October. He indicated that he wanted to extend his appreciation to two individuals who spent countless hours in undertaking a variety of building tasks they are Gord Stewart and Harry Bergsma.

The usual commitment by the congregation with respect to our fundraisers continued to be strong the tree count was the same as last year 1400 and realized a profit of \$15,998.38 and the ladies outdid them selves with pie making despite of the ongoing construction, they made 1972 pies and made a profit of \$6,265.15. The total receipt for the year were \$107,509.66 with \$ 75,466.20 coming from envelope donations.

All groups with in the church made a difference to the new church, the Alpha Omega, Ladies Group, and the children through the youth fundraisers such as, dinners and car washings. Everyone contributed.

1999

This is the year that our minister Mark Gedke is leaving to take a charge at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Kitchener. Mark has been a vital role in the establishing of youth programs and the participation of many of us getting involved in the church I will list below how involved everyone was at this time.

Session

Cal Withers Clerk

John Bryant

Ethel Childerhose

Ron Leitch

Ben Ormseth

Erma Pritchard

John Gowing  
Sharon Leacy  
Elizabeth Leitch  
Ginnie Wilkins

Paul Schell  
Nancy Springer  
Margaret Stewart

#### Young Disciples Children's worship

Harry Bergsma  
Janice Blanchette  
Nina Depuis  
Elaine Dwyer  
Anne Gedke  
Rachelle Williams  
Adrea Depuis  
Alan Tremblet

Ellice Dwyer  
Jennifer Chambers  
George Goor  
Chanra Sem  
Sareth Sem  
Margeret Stewart  
Susan Bergsma

#### Board of Managers

Marion Anderson Treasurer  
Harry Bergsma Chair  
Dave Dwyer  
Norm Eggett

Ben Ormseth  
Paul Schell  
Gord Stewart

#### Trustees

Harry Bergsma                      Ron Leitch              Nancy Springer  
Auditor- Murial Ireland      Envelope Secretary Joanne Eggett  
Organist- Olive Donaldson      Choir Director- Elizabeth Leitch

The Alpha Omega club was busy again this year with Breakfasts, Burning Bush pin sales, there was a men's night out, annual pancake and sausage dinner. The men also built a new shed for Christmas tree sales, the old shed which was a truck body was sent to the graveyard. Tree sales were another success with a

profit of \$ 15,781.32. The ladies group continued to take in the "dough" with pie sales they made 1947 pies for a profit of \$ 7,829.26

The church has received loans from the Presbytery Extension Fund for \$50,000.00 which had an interest rate of 10% per year and a \$60,000.00 loan from the Presbyterian National lending Fund the interest on the loan was free for the first 6 years and in the seventh year the rate would be 7% the loan was for 15 years, however if the loan was paid back within 12 years the interest paid would be returned to the church.

Revenues for the year were \$ 94,696.81 and expenses were \$ 77,153.03

2000

St. Lawrence has an interim moderator Rev. Don MacInnis who is also the second minister at New St. James. We look forward to working with Don on our way to find a new minister for our church. The congregation is involved as ever before with fundraising and leadership where it is needed. Our church is a strong and vibrant family who are working hard to continue their role in this community.

The Alpha Omega group continued to lead with many projects this year. The chairperson Gord Stewart reported that they continued with Burning Bush pins which had sales of \$ 977.00, donation was made to the Children's Hospital, sold hot doge at the annual yard sale and provided roses for the ladies on Mother Day. The tree sales resulted in a profit of \$ 17,958.96. The Ladies group also contributed much work to St. Lawrence with their pies ( \$ 6,760.18) and a farewell dinner for the Gedcke's. The group transferred \$ 10,856.60 to the general fund.

2001

The congregation welcomes a new minister and his wife, Rev. Harold Kouwenberg and his wife Lorriane. As reflected in the annual report the finances of the church are now amalgamated into the general account. Each group in the church continues to work hard at fundraising. The men had their usual functions throughout the year included with culmination of the Tree sales which generated a profit of \$ 12,000.00. The ladies collected \$ 10,971.80 from the pie sales.

Two new elders were elected by the congregation they are Norm Eggett and The minister has re-aligned the church committees as the following Pastoral care, Worship and Nurture, Christian Education and Mission and Outreach. A representative elder was a leader of each committee and would in turn report back to the session.

2002

The year saw the resignation of three elders, John Bryant and Norm Eggett, Cal Withers retired from the session as well and the new clerk is Ben Ormseth. Nina Depuis resigned her position as Sunday school Superintendant. The committees worked hard at keeping the church as unified and a powerful force in the community. The Alpha Omega tree sales raised \$ 15,300.00 a financial report from the ladies group was not available.

As one who was involved with many aspects of church life I noticed that there were certain obstacles that were being met throughout the year. These were resolved but none the less were there. I feel that some of the groups were starting to lose some identity when it came to starting projects. More controls were placed on them and it was difficult to initiate these projects on our own. This was evident with meetings that occurred during the year.

2003

A number of things started to happen at St. Lawrence this year Ron and Elizabeth Leitch and Paul Schell resigned from the session. Financial reports lacked specific income columns. It was hard to breakdown fundraising efforts by the individual groups. There were problems throughout the year with committee and pastoral decisions. The membership was reduced to 78 from earlier highs of 138. Individual committees remained strong but more responsibilities were taken away from them by not allowing initiatives to be completed or initiated. The congregation, earlier in the year were divided on issues re growth and roles of individuals. Investment money needed to be transferred to the general fund to meet expenditures. The tree sales realized a profit of about \$16,000.00 est. Some reports for the annual report were not ready at press time and needed to be inserted after.

The purpose of the year's report is not be negative in it's presentation but only to relate to the reader the current conditions of the church. There were meetings by individuals with the clergy but answers and resolutions were hard to come by. It was a year of transition in our church.

2004

Due to the situation at St. Lawrence we still have a monitoring committee attending the session meetings each month they are under the guidance of Rev. Kirk Summers these individuals are called assessor elders ( Rob Evans and Bob Simpson) Heather Reid our music director resigned her post and there was some apathy within the congregation. The Alpha Omega group had a profit of \$ 17,000.00 on the sale of 1100 trees there were no pie sales. A new sign from a generous donation from the Leacy/Hatherall family was installed on the church property. The year saw the loss of three special members of our church Felicia Boateng, Beth Fyfe and Jim McGilton, they will be missed. Emphasis was

placed on envelope donations as another \$20,000.0 was transferred to the general fund.

2005

This year we find ourselves without a minister- Rev. Kouwenberg resigned his position to accept a position with the Canadian Bible Society. Our interim moderator was Rev. Lynn Nichol from Knollwood Presbyterian Church.

The year saw other changes as well we developed a partnership with North Park Church as Life Resource Center at the church. Rev. David Cottrill was our contact with Ben Ormseth and John Gowing being the contact for the church.

The tree fundraiser for the church was another success as the profit was \$ 12,744.03. The ladies made 628 pies for a profit of \$2900.00. The church is pulling together to get us through this time of vacancy. Special thanks to Inge Stahl for her tireless work each Sunday- for pulpit supply and pastoral care. Our budget for the year was \$ 64,675.00 and income was \$ 94,653.32 and expense were \$106,976.55

We had one mortgage left with the Presbyterian Church of Canada for \$ 33,780.00.

A new group was formulated in the church they are the "Jolly Unique Ladies Informally Eating Together" (JULIET) they get together every second Thursday of the month for lunch.

2006

This is the first full year without a minister at the church, as in the last year Inge has taken on most of the pulpit supply for the year with added responsibility of pastoral care. The church as a whole is thriving with leadership and activities. Everyone is taking on charges to keep the church active in community and outreach. A search committee was formed under the leadership of Duncan McMillan, the session decided on a part time or half time minister. Rev. Lynn Nichol being a part time minister aided us in that direction due to her position with Knollwood. During the year Jeanne Hamon whose bequest allowed St. Lawrence to continue to grow past away. Jeanne had been a member of the church since 2002. The youth put on a "Guess Who is Coming to Dinner" dinner which turned out to be great success. The mission committee was activated this past year and members of the church have taken on ministry roles at Chateau Gardens, McGarrell Place and Kensington. Services are conducted on Sunday afternoon and evenings. Duncan McMillan, Carolanne Acker, Sue and Harry Bergsma, Paul Swan, Sharon Leacy have taken on these roles.

Aluminum cans as a fundraiser was begun this year under the "Crushing" leadership of George Ireland, in its first year we collected enough cans to realize \$ 1,127.95 the Christmas tree project raised \$ 17,500.00 from 1085 trees. The Ladies made 150 apple and mince pies for a \$800.00 profit. The church paid off \$ 6,452.00 on the church loan which had a balance of \$ 29,460.00. Revenue for the year was \$200,966.97 which included \$85,000.00 form the Jeanne Hamon estate and \$ 68,545.53 from the offering envelopes.

2007

**"If we are to go forward, we must go back and rediscover those precious values that all reality hinges on- moral foundations and that all reality has spiritual control."**

**Dr. Martin Luther King**

The church has struggled inwardly with the lack of permanent leadership. This is not to say that the leaders of the church are falling down- they are not We are working hard and continuing dedicated services to God and St. Lawrence. As Duncan McMillan relates to us in the mission report "we are on God's timeline and not our own". There is a sense of urgency and frustration with this process in the church and I believe that to be a healthy sign.

The ongoing programs in the church indicate our dedication and the strength that is shown by all of us. Dr. Kings' words are inspiring to the point that God is with us and we must trust His way.

We mourn the loss of a good friend Shirley Tuck, her presence will be missed as you know she introduced the coffee to "Cheezies". St. Lawrence became part of the community garden program in conjunction with the City of London.

The search committee had 5 applications submitted to them, they listened to 4 and three were interviewed one was recommended to the session, however the applicant reconsidered and withdrew the application.

The Alpha Omega group reported that \$ 12,000.00 was realized from 857 tree sales. The group had an excursion to the Detroit Auto show in January. The "pop" can project raised \$ 1,036.90 for the year.

The annual picnic was held at John and Maryanne Eaton's home and a Guess who is coming to dinner was held with great success, it allowed for more interaction between members.

The church purchased a new shed, piano, new tables and chairs for the basement.

2008

As we enter the year we are still without a minister however the year reflects that the leadership of the church is strong. Lynn Nichol has resigned her role as interim moderator due to health issues the new interim moderator is Rev. Sabrina Caldwell, from Oakridge Presbyterian Church. We are still blessed with the ministry of Inge Stahl.

The front of the worship area was renovated by a generous donation from Mac and Grace Coghlin, the work was done by Harry Bergsma. Also this year the church purchased new chairs for the sanctuary, had the floor refinished, new carpet installed and the parking lot was paved. The last payment of the bequest from Jeanne Hamon was received.

The congregation decided that we expand the parameters of the search for a minister to that of a 2/3 position.

It was decided by the men that this would be the last year for Christmas tree sales due to amount of work involved and the abilities of some of the faithful helpers. This was later rescinded and it was decided that the following year we look at hiring part time help to offset the strain on our volunteers. The tree profit was around \$12,000.00.

2009

Our annual meeting was held on February 15<sup>th</sup>, little did the congregation know how our church would change come April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The search committee had continued to work hard to find a 2/3 minister for our church and as a result we were blessed by their continued faith and determination that the Reverend Tom Godfrey became part of the St. Lawrence Family.

The church had been without permanent pulpit supply for over two years- however the church remained a strong and viable asset to the community. The leaders of the church kept a strong faith throughout this time and maintained a positive continuance of St. Lawrence. We especially thank Inge Stahl for her tireless work in keeping our faith focused, the session for their strength and wisdom and the board for their faith based decision making in the operation of the church.

The year also produced an expansion of the Life Resource ministry as two portables were moved to our location to allow further outreach into our community from St. Lawrence.

St. Lawrence continued their ministries on Sunday at Chateau Gardens, Mc Garrell Place and Kensington and at Strathmere Lodge for a Christmas caroling by members of the choir.

A new screen was installed in the church to further expand the ministry of the church through video and photos. St. Lawrence supported New St. James for the Malawi project, My Sister's Place and the Shoe Box program and the Men's Mission. The Christmas trees raised \$ 12,000.00.

**" And whatever you do, whether in word or in deed,  
do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father  
through him."  
Colossians 3:17**

2010

The year saw the installation of five new Elders, Mary Ann Eaton, George Goor, Deon Kim, Eula Beckford and Inge Stahl. They join A.G. Harry Bergsma, Virginia Wilkins, Erma Pritchard, Duncan McMillan, Margaret Stewart, Sharon Leacy, and Ben Ormseth (Clerk of Session)

The year saw the passing of one of the founding members of the church Mrs. Jean Hill, her wit and charm will be missed.

Our project the Malawi mission is well under way by having fundraisers such as bazaars and " Souper Sundays". It is hoped that the Malawi Mission will occur in May of 2012.

The annual picnic was held in Coldstream at the Bergsma residence- we had good fellowship and fun for all of the 68 who came out.

For the first time a report was given in the annual report by David Cottrill describing the contributions that the Life Resource Centre has made to the community. LRC has been operating for almost 5 years now and they have served more the 20,000 free meals and handed out tons of clothing. Youth are encouraged to participate in LRC programs such as ESL, cooking and sewing classes and they also participate in a homework club. Other activities that are ongoing during the year were World Refugee Day, International Women's day, Victoria Day, Canada Day and Spa Days. Summer camps were organized on Christian based themes. The year saw the beginning of free dental clinic that were set up in the basement.

The youth band ministry is growing and making regular contribution to the Sunday services. At the time the band consisted of Jacob Allender- percussion, Aaron Barry- Guitar, vocal and musical leadership, Sydney Eaton- bass guitar, Sarah Eaton - key board, Maegan and Courtney Ferron- vocals, Jasmine, Jaeleah and Kristen Goor- vocals, Jeffrey Kim- percussion, Kaylyn Reid- keyboard, Victoria Reid- saxophone, Julia Fyfe - clarinet. We thank John and Mary Ann Eaton for undertaking this ministry.

The Christmas tree project involved many of the congregation through food donations and physical labour, we hired four people again this year to lesson the burden on some of us. Our profit for the year was just over \$11,000.00.

**" If you have much, give of your wealth;  
if you have little, give of your heart"**  
Author Unknown

2011

In July we were saddened by the loss of elder for thirty years and clerk of session for ten years and founder of the Fall colour tour Erma Pritchard, she will be missed.

A penny collection was initiated by Muriel Ireland and Florence Sherk raised \$150.00, the money was sent to Africa to rescue child sex workers.

The men's breakfast welcomed the newly retired Paul Swan from his many years of teaching.

2011 saw a decline in weekly givings but our spirits were as high as ever. The total budget was set at \$ 117,560.00 for the year.

Compiling a synopsis of the history of our church has made me aware of the dedicated members who continually step up and carry the torch to continue our ministry here at St. Lawrence. I would very much like to tackle two major fundraisers that we at St. Lawrence are known for on a city wide basis.

2012

This year we lost Elaine Dwyer on September 9, she had been battling breast cancer for many years, our prayers go out to Dave and the family.

The inside of the main church was repainted. A defibrillator was purchased and instruction to operate it was given by Todd Douglas. A new laptop and data projector were purchased to allow better sound and video for the worship services.

We conducted a fire drill in October in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week. New asphalt was placed at the front of the parking lot. New eaves trough was placed around the perimeter of the church building.

A Malawi mission trip occurred on September 13<sup>th</sup>, the participants were Duncan McMillan, Eva Roberts, Lynn Nichol and Inge Stahl.

Budget for 2012 was set at \$114,750.54

2013

This year has a possibility of an beginning process of an amalgamation between St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church and Knollwood Presbyterian Church, the building and manse of Knollwood have been sold and a meeting has been scheduled for exploratory purposes.

Our budget of \$114,750.54 was surpassed, our income for the year was \$ 121,349.28 and expenses were \$ 125,406.33

2014

The most outstanding event of this year was the amalgamation of Knollwood and St.Lawrence. This was precluded with two steering committees one from Knollwood and one from St. Lawrence. During this process meeting were held and these were led by Rev. Tom Godfrey and Rev. Jim Redpath. A closing dinner was held as a tribute to the 100 years of Christian worship to the community of London it served. The amalgamation date is March 1, 2014.

On June 8 an amalgamation celebration dinner was held with Rev. John Park as guest speaker, part of the celebration named the downstairs hall as " Knollwood Park Fellowship Hall" which was commemorated with a sign at the entrance to the hall.

On October 1<sup>st</sup> Rev. Tom Godfrey resigned as minister of St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church due to health issues. Rev. Joan Ashley and Rev. Lynn Nichol assumed the spiritual leadership for the church. Shortly afterwards Rev Nichol fell to ill health and

had to withdraw from that position. The London Presbytry assigned Rev. John Park as interim moderator due to the retirement of Rev. Godfrey.

The leadership of St. Lawrence stepped up in leadership roles to continue the work of St. Lawrence for the balance of the year. A \$1000.00 bursary was set up in conjunction with the Presbyterian college, Communion cards were discontinued, and a new photo directory is in the works for 2015.

Along with the amalgamation process the funds from Knollwood were transferred to the St. Lawrence account. A St. Lawrence/Knollwood memorial funds was created in the amount of \$ 290,607.89, this money was invested by the Board with approval of the session with TD Cda. Trust.

The Christmas tree project continued in its 29<sup>th</sup> year with a profit of \$ 8,096.29. The amalgamation reflected in the givings for the church, the envelope givings increased \$25,000.00 from the previous year. There was also a transfer of \$ 53,769.39 from Knollwood to the St. Lawrence general account.

Other funds from Knollwood Presbyterian Church were distributed to the following institutions  
Camp Kintail, Mission Srvices of London, Ratholme Women's and Family Shelter, London Community Chaplaincy, Habitat for Humanity, Presbyterian Church in Canada, Almanarah Presbyterian Church, 45<sup>th</sup> Cubs and Scouts, Knox College, Presbytery of London and the National Presbeterian Museum.

2015

This year saw St. Lawrence without permanent leadership, we had two interim moderators Rev. John Park and Rev. Jim Redpath ( December 1<sup>st</sup>)

During the absence of a permanent minister for St. Lawrence for 2015 our elders continued with leadership roles in the church to make it a viable contribution to the community.

Our first bursary recipient of \$1000.00 was Julio Miranda, our outreach for the year was \$ 6,257.70 to various local and national agencies.

A transition team, and search committee were formed during the year to start the process for a search for a new minister.

Total budget for the year was approved for \$ 134,985.70.

2016

This year is another important year for the St. Lawrence congregation, we started the year with an empty pulpit and ended the year with a new Minister- Reverend James Clark- his youth full ness has invoked a new spirit at St. Lawrence.

We are thankful for the search committee for their hard and diligent work this year- members were, Rev. John Park, Alison Williams (Chair), Ben Ormseth, Jasmine Goor, Linda Wallace, George Goor, Tom medland and Eulah Beckford.

We are also grateful to the two interim moderators- Reverend John Park and Reverend Jim Redpath.

Thank you goes out to all our pulpit supply ministers- Rev. Dr. Les Files, Rev. Dr. Jan McIntyre and Rev Michael Stohl, all recently retired ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, for their strong preaching and interest in our congregation this year while the pulpit continued to be vacant.

A Christian congregation began worship services at our church Sunday afternoons beginning at Easter.

We welcomed a new Music Director Lisa Cunningham to our church family.

St. Lawrence web page has been vastly improved thanks to the work of Rev Clark and Tom Medland.

Alison Williams became clerk of session January 2017 with the retired of Dave Laphorne- we thank God for his time and leadership with St. Lawrence.

We lost Rita Chipperfield, Joan Burgess, Pat Smith and Fern Taylor this year. God bless their families.

St. Lawrence has it 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being involved with the Nursing Home Ministry. Thanks to Rev. James Clark, Dave and Mary Jane Laphorne, Eulah Beckford, Sue and Harry Bergsma, Sharon Leacy, Paul Swan and Duncan McMillan.

The ladies group expanded this year making meat pies, hosting a WMS luncheon and hosting a harvest supper in October.

The St. Lawrence congregation supported 13 local and international agency financially totaling \$ 8,590.55.

The Christmas tree program had another successful year with all the trees finding a home, our profit was \$5,852.70- total income for the year was \$119,130.65 while expenses were \$ 109,496.31.

2017

This was the first full year of our now permanent minister Rev. James Clark. The year saw improvements in our Web presence and our first baptism in some time- Gabriel Brian Almeida was baptized. The year also had a Jazz concert presented by Wendi Heal to raise funds for the audio-visual ministry.

Our web presence saw 1212 visitations which included 711 who had never visited before.

Vacation Bible School was held in the summer, fruit drinks and snacks were supplied by the Ladies' group. The ladies had a harvest supper in October attended by 51 with guest speaker Rev. Dorothy Henderson.

Total missions and outreach for the year were \$ 8,600.24  
Presbyterian Sharing was \$9,000.00.

Christmas Tree sales showed a profit of \$ 6, 089.95 an increase over 2016 but we had to take 57 trees to be recycled at Tri-Recycling. We spent \$ 1,212.00 on salary for one helper. We will

change our ordering next year to reduce the number of larger trees.

Our givings were up \$100.00 average per week while total envelopes were down minimally. Total income for the year rose to \$ 127,483.24 and expenses jumped to \$148,001.82, this increase was primarily due to full time pulpit supply. Our budget for 2018 was set and approved by the congregation at \$ 146,225.00.

### **Christmas Trees**

On the evening of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1984 at the home of Morley Wilkins the men of St. Lawrence decided to form the " Alpha Omega Club". The purpose of the club is to persue fellowship and the raising of funds for church needs. Hence the start of the Christmas tree sales. In order to begin this men's club it was decided by them that each person contribute dues of \$1.00 each month to start a " slush" fund. Original members of the club were-

Morley Wilkins, Ron Leitch, Ralph Wilson, John Gowing, Jess Clewlow, Dave Rowe, Sandy Beaton, Cal Withers, John Woolcock and John Bryant.

At the first meeting on February 1, 1984 it was reported that \$1,630.65 was raised from Christmas tree sales.

## Our History

As we begin the New Year (2018) we are blessed with the determination and dedication of our St. Lawrence Family, we have over the years seen many changes in leadership and congregational make up. It is thanks to you who are our current member family that allows us to contribute to our community and world issues at large. We hope and pray that God will continue to be the instrument that will lay the foundation of what is to come. As we look back at our beginnings and to the future we do all that we do in His name.

Nov. 20th, 1949 - The first Sunday School Service was held in the Old St. Lawrence School House directly across the street from our current building.

Nov 25th, 1951- The first church service was held in that same school house.

Feb. 24th 1952- The congregation was organized with 10 charter members.

May 16th 1954- The congregation was connected with S. Nissouri congregation with C. Falconer as minister.

Nov 28, 1954- The corner stone was laid.

June 10th, 1955- The building was dedicated.

Feb 3rd., 1957- The first elders were ordained.

June 1st, 1959 - the first resident minister was appointed by the Board of Missions- Reverend George Gordier.

Oct. 14, 1969 the congregation became affiliated with Knollwood Park Presbyterian Church.

Dec 3, 1969 - Rev Tom Duke was inducted as Minister.

1982- Sandy Beaton became our new minister.

Sept 17<sup>th</sup>, 1989 Reverend Mark Gedcke became our new minister.

1998 our Church had a major expansion and safety upgrade.

2001 , October 12th Reverend Harold Kouwenberg became our new minister.

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Reverend Tom Godfrey became our new minister

On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 Reverend James Clark became the new Minister for St. Lawrence Church.

Harry Bergsma ( Historian )

### **CHRISTMAS TREE SALES**

While looking back through the annual reports I discovered that the first written report on tree sales began in 1983- 24 years ago. The venture according to the written record indicates that Obe Rosenthal and Morley Wilkins were the original culprits. One cannot really fathom the impact of this fundraiser until you look back and see what it has meant to St. Lawrence.

Just thinking back I can see these dedicated men trudging through the snow, ice and wind and probably rain committing themselves to this most worthwhile cause. I for one salute you. This truly was a winter fundraiser for growth and camaraderie. It was also a time for the "Ladies Group" to participate. As I remember the times that I participated there was always plenty of food and sweets to be had, no one enjoyed them more than I.

It was a family time of rejoicing and giving. Here are the totals for each year.

1984-----\$ 1,630.65

1985-----\$5,813.94

1986-----\$8,766.40

1987-----\$12,720.43

1988-----\$17,539.86

1989-----\$19,946.24

1990-----\$23,532.75

1991-----\$19,035.09

1992-----\$ 9,907.40  
1993-----\$15,656.74  
1994-----\$14,566.25  
1995-----\$14,045.05  
1996-----\$15,480.80  
1997-----\$16,057.06  
1998-----\$15,781.32  
1999-----\$17,958.96  
2000-----\$12,000.00  
2001-----\$19,964.37  
2002-----\$18,719.27  
2003-----\$15,730.04  
2004-----\$16,778.39  
2005-----\$11,789.03  
2006-----\$17,647.09  
2007-----\$11,904.32  
2008-----\$12,322.97  
2009 -----\$12,097.96  
2010-----\$11,231.88  
2011-----\$ 10,000.00  
2012-----\$ 9,700.00  
2013-----\$ 10,235.00  
2014-----\$ 8,096.29  
2015-----\$ 8,270.73  
2016-----\$ 5,802.70  
2017-----\$ 6,089.95

This represents a total of \$ 440,015.51 or an average of \$ 13,750.48 per year which required approximately 36,357hours of dedicated time to accomplish.

Sure does put a different perspective on things, doesn't it? I don't know about you but I am amazed and astounded by these figures.

This was an undertaking 32 years ago to see if some extra money could be raised by the church and still today these men and women with different faces commit themselves to this most extensive fundraiser for our church.

## Pies

Another fundraiser well known throughout the city was the Ladies pies. These ladies would go out to get the apples, blueberries and cherries and make it an all day event. There were years in the 90's that the ladies made up 1972 pies in one year, 2001 was a record year as the ladies group collected \$ 10,971.80 in pie sales, unfortunately there was no indication as to how many pies were sold. Pie making started in 1989 according to the records we have and the ended in 2006. Throughout those years the ladies sold an estimated 21,817 pies for a profit of \$ 82,744.12 now that is a lot of "dough".

A.G. Harry Bergsma