

Fairview United Church
49 Wayne Drive
Brantford, ON N3R 2Y8
(519) 752-8549

Easter 2008 Issue 103

the fairview

LINK

Email Addresses:

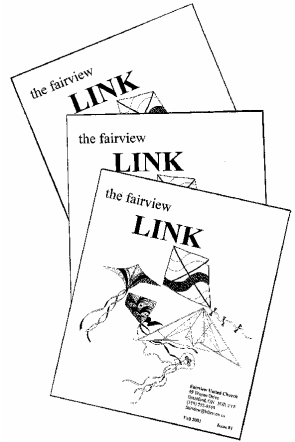
rev.barrie@fairviewunitedchurch.org
staff.christine@fairviewunitedchurch.org
office.sharon@fairviewunitedchurch.org

THE “LINK” STAFF

PRODUCTION & LAYOUT: Sharon Tracey
SPECIAL FEATURES BY: Rita Reid-Smith
Bob Bayne

Thank you to all those who contributed articles for this publication. Your Editorial Team would encourage all members of the congregation to submit any reports they may have to team members or the Church Office for publishing in the Link.

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Renew Your
Faith
This Easter



The Journey to Easter Takes Us ... From The Expected

From Rev. Barrie's Corner

During the season of Lent each one of us in our own way has been "On a Journey" — In Time, In Wisdom, In Love, In Asking Key Questions, In Understanding, and in Faith.

In my own human frailty, and my experience of Wonder about God's direction in my life; I would be the first to declare that this Journey to Easter takes us from the Expected to the Incredible. How many times have you responded to some incredible happening affecting your well-being with this phrase: "I'll believe it when I see it with my own eyes!"

Most often, our personal confirmation of something of a profound or questionable nature can best be summed up by the phrase "SEEING IS BELIEVING". We can only imagine what kind of speculation took place in the minds of those disciples who were hearing the first-hand accounts of those people who had made the discovery that Jesus' body was missing from its place in the tomb. They would certainly feel entitled to ask: IS THIS SOME KIND OF MAGIC OR MYSTERY?

The old claims: that Christ did not really die on the cross but collapsed after six hours, was placed in a tomb rather hurriedly, revived and came forth, or that He actually did die but his body was stolen and hidden by his disciples, despite a sealed tomb and guards—find expression in every generation. Unbelievers have called the Resurrection "the greatest hoax in history."

As believers who continue to struggle with the BIG FAITH QUESTIONS, we must AFFIRM that the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is no illusion—not some kind of David Copperfield magic—but it is a mystery. A mystery that is accomplished through sacred energy. A Divine Mystery that has imparted "Sacred Energy"

literally for hundreds of years, for those who believe. In the category of **“God’s Profound Presence”** I vividly recall an early morning sunrise service beside Lake Rosalind just outside Hanover, where 25 persons had gathered on a very chilly Easter Sunday morning to share the Good News that “Christ is Risen!” I was playing on my portable tape recorder the song “Morning has Broken”, when flying overhead at 7 am was a blackbird in flight announcing in his own voice that indeed—“Morning has Broken”. God’s profound presence was there in that sacred moment in time, in flight, and in sound.

As we ponder the serendipity of that very first Easter, we must be mindful that the voice of the Angel of the Lord was not familiar to the two Mary’s but in his announcing the Good News of Jesus’ Resurrection to the women, he gave them four messages.

These 4 messages are also relevant for the Fairview Family today;

1. Do not be afraid. The reality of the Resurrection brings Joy not fear. When you are afraid, remember the re-assuring sight of the empty tomb.
2. He is not here. Jesus is not dead and is not to be looked for among the dead. He is alive with His people.
3. Come, see. The women could check the evidence for themselves. The tomb was empty then, and is still empty today. The resurrection is a historical fact.
4. Go quickly and tell his disciples. They were to spread the joy of the resurrection. We too are to spread the joy in our telling of the Good News of Jesus’ rising from the dead.

As you prepare for the “Front Page News” of Jesus’ resurrection in your life, share the special events, music and joy of the Easter season here at Fairview with your friends and family!

Once again, may the love of Christ embrace you.

Rev. Barrie J. Bain

Fairview Family Album

Welcome Back Marilyn Gellner

Marilyn's return to Brantford and to Fairview United Church staff, as our Church Custodian, is a reason to celebrate as we enter 2008.

Marilyn was part of our staff for several years but left to be with family in Chatham. Her return to Brantford and to Fairview completes our staff that works so well together.

Welcome back Marilyn. You complete our "home team".

Bob Bayne
"Link" Staff





Garage SALE

The Tranquility
Unit is planning
a Yard Sale for
Friday May 9, 9 am to 5 pm
and
Saturday, May 10, 9 am to noon.

*Donations gratefully
accepted .*



Men's Breakfast Group

On Friday mornings the Men's Breakfast Group does not do the following:

- a) We do not curl until 9 am
- b) We do not golf until 9 am
- c) We do not sleep in until 10 am.

However!

We do get to the church by 8 am

We do have a great breakfast

We do have lots of laughing and sharing

We do miss you if you do not attend.

***This is a special invitation to come
out and enjoy an hour with us.***

Where else can you have a great breakfast for \$2.00?

Give me a call and we will set another plate for you.

Bob Bayne
519-754-4711

Ways and Means Committee 2008

We invite all the members of the Fairview Family to share with us your fund-raising ideas.

At the Annual Fairview Congregational Meeting held on February 10, 2008 a group of volunteers presented their names to form a committee to come up with ideas which might help balance our budget.

We know there are many who have great suggestions. Please give the church office a call for the name of a committee member who you can share your ideas with.

Thank you!



CELEBRATE THE BUNNY

Sunday, March 30th

3:30 - 6pm



Crafts for children and adults,
face painting, bunny hopping, personality
test by the art of eating chocolate bunnies,
Veggie Tale Video about chocolate bunnies,
concluding with a pizza dinner.

The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board
under Faith Formation.

My Heroine—Chapter II

You met Heather-my heroine, in the December Issue of the Link. Several commented favourably on the piece so I thought you might be interested in more of Heather's journey.

Some time ago she had to discontinue teaching kids piano because they could not understand her instructions. In early January, her doctor fitted her with a feeding tube through which she gets her sustenance at night. She can no longer swallow solid food. When told by her doctor that there was some muscle deterioration in one arm and one leg, she responded with "well, that's why God gave us two, I'll just use the other side". Such is her spirit.

Heather still goes to work every day at her sister's music store where she types invoices and does other office work non-stop. Every Sunday she plays the organ for service at Glen Morris United.

Since last writing, Heather and her singing group "Distinction" entertained at an invitation-only concert at the "Glen" church and raised \$3,500 for ALS that Saturday afternoon.

In late January, Heather, Bob, Ben, Stewart and Meghan vacationed for a week in Mexico. They all said it was a beautiful, memorable week.

In early May, Heather and Bob are moving into a newer, smaller home in Ayr. The old 2-storey that Heather loved is no longer suitable. Later in May, they are celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary with a trip to Italy—a place Heather has long wanted to see.

The ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) Society is so impressed with Heather's work and attitude, it is doing a feature article on her for their newsletter and possibly, website.

But Heather is not done yet!

She and her family, "Distinction", and other friends have plans well under way for

"Heather's Hootenay for Hope-2008"

Saturday, August 9

3-11 pm, Paris Fair Grounds

Like last year, there will be many musical groups, some of which Heather plans to play for. There will be entertainment personalities, food, kids entertainment, and a large silent auction. It promises to be bigger and better than 2007 when \$42,500 was raised. For more information, go to <http://HH4H.wordpress.com/>

Maybe we'll see you at the Hootenay.

In recently awarding Heather, the “Ayr Head Award”, the “Fresh Ayr Festival” said this:

“You are a woman of outstanding achievement, of courage in the face of adversity and a source of inspiration to everyone whose lives you have touched. In a world of many, you stand out. In a world that could be filled with despair, you give us hope. In a world that could be filled with followers, you are a leader. We hope that you will honour us and our community by accepting the Ayr Head Award. You are Remarkable.”

I can't say it better than that.

Dave
Kelman



In Memoriam



Edith Crow
January 15, 2008

Dick Martin
February 8, 2008

Linda Panton
January 19, 2008

Ron Carson
February 10, 2008

Carol Chonka
January 24, 2008

Lawrence Young
February 23, 2008

Ken Pigeon
January 25, 2008

Helen Disher
February 24, 2008

Tony Markus
February 2, 2008

World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 7, 7:30 pm

at Church of the Nazarene

347 Fairview Drive

Fellowship Following the Service

Nursery provided

Please join us!

Summer Service Schedule

Preparations are being made whereby summer worship services will take place at Fairview during the Sundays of July and August at 10 am. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

Joy Day

On Saturday April 26 the Fairview women will host the UCW Joy Day. Ladies, please join us for this special event from 9:30 to 3 pm.

The Proclamation Program

will be hosted at Fairview from April 2 until April 11. From 7 am until 9 pm each day, the bible will be read out loud by a number of volunteers and churches in Brantford and area. By the end of the program the entire bible will have been read out loud.

May 11

Mother's Day, Pentecost and Infant Baptism

June 22

Tri-Church picnic at Five Oaks

Ten Thousand Village Festival

is being held here at Fairview on Saturday May 3rd.

We need help with setting up tables the Thursday before, individuals to help at the sale on Saturday (and with the setting up on the Friday) as well as volunteers for the tea room on Saturday. Anyone interested in any aspect of this project is encouraged to volunteer, as many hands make less work. If you are interested please call Kim McClelland at 756-3938.

Ten Thousand Villages provides vital, fair income to Third World people by marketing their handicrafts and telling their stories in North America. They work with artisans who would otherwise be unemployed. This income pays for food, education, health care and housing. It seeks to improve the livelihood and well-being of disadvantaged artisans, by providing opportunities and market access.

SPECIAL EASTER SERVICES

March 16

Palm Sunday at 10:30 am

Procession of the palms

March 20

Lenten Labyrinth Meditation at 7:00 pm

followed by:

Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30 pm

with communion

March 21

Good Friday service at 10:30 am

March 23

Easter Sunday, two services:

7 am Sunrise Service

10:30 am Easter Service

Time to Start Getting into Shape – Baseball will soon begin.

Although it may be hard to imagine playing baseball and swatting mosquitoes under the lights at Greenlane in Paris (at least it is nice to imagine), the Fairview Blueshirts will soon be on the field again.

For the newcomers, we play in a non-competitive, mixed league comprised of 16 churches in the Brantford area which is aimed at ecumenical Christian Fellowship. There are 15 games in total followed by the playoffs in mid-August. The games are played on weekday evenings throughout the spring and summer, usually at either 6 or 8 pm. The season begins in May.

Lori and I have attended multiple league meetings during the winter to discuss changes to the format - many suggested by Fairview members in our wrap-up meeting last Fall. Among these is the likelihood of playing most of the games in Paris (still yet to be confirmed but it looks likely) and many other measures to improve the Fellowship, non-competitive aspect.

After last season's growing experience (one tie and lots of fun), I feel that this may be **the year**. The cost will be \$35/year (T-shirt included) and new recruits are very welcome.

Come and join our spirited team! Lori Haskings-Barber and I (Al Rey) will begin collecting names and answer any questions you may have.

Play Ball!



The Scott Woods Show
Old Time Christmas Show
Country Gospel
Benefit Concert



Attention

Attention

*Fairview United Church,
49 Wayne Drive,
Brantford, Ontario*

Friday, November 28, 7 pm
Matinee... Saturday, November 29, 2 pm and
Saturday, November 29, 7 pm

This fast paced two-hour concert skilfully combines old time fiddling with country gospel songs, perennial favourites, and a generous helping of humour. You'll be treated to one of Canada's best talents—the man with the flying fingers and magic bow-fiddling sensation, Scott Woods. Scott has performed to enthusiastic crowds throughout Canada, the United States, and in Holland.

This young man has captured all the major Canadian fiddling titles, including Canadian Open Fiddle Champion, Canadian Grand Master's Fiddling Champion, and Canadian Fiddler Entertainer of the year. For seven years he was musical Director and played the part of Don Messer in "Memories of Don Messer's Jubilee", a tribute show which has toured across the country. In addition, he has several recordings to his credit, which will be available at the concert.

There are lots of things to watch for when Scott Woods takes to the stage. His keen sense of timing and his sharp wit will keep you on your toes. And speaking of toes, just try to keep them still as he plays those old time tunes!

Scott is backed up by his own four-piece band. Together, they stir up a storm of good music to lift your heart and feed your soul.

Notes:

- ***Ticket price \$20.00.***
- ***To pre-order or purchase tickets phone Grant Wilks at 519-752-4227 or Bob Bayne at 519-754-4711.***
- ***This Old Time Christmas Show will again be an outstanding musical event. We encourage the Fairview Family to not only plan to attend but become "ticket salesmen" for this Country Gospel Benefit Concert. Invite your family and others from your community. We know from last year's show that those who attend will be treated to a memorable musical event. ("Sponsored by" the Fairview Men's Breakfast Group.)***

Fairview Financial Focus

Imagine this is you will. You are being interviewed for your very first job and it is time to talk about salary. The man who is interviewing you says that he will give a cheque at the end of each week but he doesn't say how much. Then he adds that he himself will not be in the office for most of the summer but he will catch up what he owes you in September when he gets back to work. Now you are starting to wonder how you can possibly budget for your new life. How much rent can I pay, what about getting a car and all of the expense that goes with that? How much heat, hydro and telephone can I afford? And while the boss goes on and on about how lucky you are to be added to his team you are thinking "what's up with this guy, hasn't he ever thought about PAR?"

PAR is a pre-authorized remittance. In the United Church it is helpful in that the financial commitments can arrive in the church on a regular basis. Once you sign up for PAR your account will be debited on the 20th of each month and then directly deposited to the various church accounts the same day. The best thing about PAR is that it only costs the congregation .50 cents per PAR family per month, up to a \$45 flat fee which means that once we had 90 families on PAR we would never pay more than \$45 per month. Currently we pay extra bank charges for each different type of transaction, which includes both cash and cheque deposits. There is an additional fee of \$0.16 per cheque for more than 35 cheques deposited during any given month. Another savings realized is reducing the cost of purchasing envelopes for 52 weeks of the year.

If you are considering PAR just call Sharon in the office or email her at office.sharon@fairviewunitedchurch.org. She will answer all of your questions and would love to hear from you. Our congregation would love to lower our bank costs and receive the reliability of regular contributions. Give it some thought!

The Fairview Finance Committee