

Trinity United Church Women 1962-1982
[Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls, Ontario]
By Elva Corless

As well as being the 150th Anniversary of Trinity United Church, it is the 20th Anniversary of the United Church Women.

It was decided by General Council that all women of the church should form one organization known as the U.C.W., rather than two organizations, the W.M.S. [Woman's Missionary Society] and the W.A. [Woman's Association]. Many women worked faithfully in both organizations and it was believed that if all the women of the church united to work together for the total mission of the church (locally, nationally, and world-wide), they could better express their loyalty to Jesus Christ in Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship, and Service.

The first executive was:

President:Mrs. B.H. Soper
1st Vice:Mrs. J.H. Crammond
2nd Vice:Mrs. H.J. Clarke
Rec. SecretaryMrs. W.G. Bradley
Corr. SecretaryMrs. J. Corless
Treas.....Mrs. C. Bailey

The presidents for the past twenty years were:

Mrs. B.H. Soper
Mrs. J.H. Crammond
Mrs. H.J. Clarke
Mrs. P.B. Strader
Mrs. J. Corless
Mrs. A. Crate
Mrs. W.B. Drummond
Mrs. H. Willoughby
Mrs. E. Hughes

The U.C.W. have taken charge of one church service each year. We have had guest speakers such as: Miss Wilma Thomas, Miss Nancy Edwards, [the]Rev. Margret Errey, [the] Rev. Frances Hare, Dr. Nora Neilson, Mrs. Ann Squire, and Mrs. Reah Miley, to name a few.

Also, we have had many interesting and educational general meetings with films, speakers, role plays, skits, etc., making us aware of community needs, Canadian concerns, world hunger and

injustices, as well as through worship service, helping the women of the church to a deeper and richer experience of the living Christ.

The individual units meet monthly, when they worship and study missions, Bible or social concerns and enjoy social fellowships.

We have a representative on the Board of Stewards, the Manse Committee and the Christian Education Committee.

Through the years, we have packed many bales, sent bandages and knitted squares to Thailand and helped with any requests for mission supplies. Locally, we have helped with Meals on Wheels, visited shut-ins of the congregation and remembered them on their birthdays and at Christmas. For many years, we purchased Home Prayers, which we sent to our shut-ins with our weekly Sunday Calendar. Over the years, we have purchased Bibles for the Communicants class.

In 1962, the U.C.W. donated the new pulpit and the cross, which now stands in the front lobby. In 1975, we donated the Bible for the lectern, the cloths for the Communion table and the table in the foyer. In 1977, [we] made major renovations in the kitchen. In 1982, we carpeted the sanctuary.

Each year we make a substantial donation to support the work of the local congregation. Our self-determined mission allocation for many years has been in the area of \$2,000.00.

Each year we make donations to Golden lake Camp, Camp LauRen, Lay Foundation, Steward House, Indian Home for Girls, Toc Alpha, and Victor Home. This year, 1982, we have adopted a foster child in Kenya.