

CHURCH OF ST. ANDREWS, DUNCHURCH, ONTARIO.

Lot 61, Con. A. was the spot, chosen by the Anglicans of Dunchurch, to build their first church in Hagerman Township. This church was added to the Magnetewan Mission. It was consecrated on September 24, 1902, by Rev. W.H. French, who was the minister at that time.

There appears to be a space of some years that there are no records for. On September 2, 1921, Rev. W.F. Smith arrived at the Mission. His first reaction was, "the faithful are few". On leaving, some years later, he made a more encouraging statement, "the few are faithful". At this time, the wardens at the church were T.H. Johnson and William Todd, who were described as willing workers.

Rev. W.F. Smith's first service was well attended with some forty-eight people and his text was taken from Hebrew Chapter XI, Verse 7.

In 1952, St. Andrews was in a state of disrepair after a long period of being closed up and neglected, and therefore, needed renovation. In 1957 there were forty services held. Another church at Midlottian and Magnetewan had been served by the same minister, but now one of these had closed. In 1961, there were forty-four in Magnetewan compared with only four in Dunchurch, leading to the close of the latter.

Rev. E. Raymond Norabell was the Rector from 1956 to 1960 and Rev. Ross Craighton 1960 to 1962. This was the ending of all services in St. Andrews.

In 1971 Mrs. O. Lamb of Ajax, Ontario, bought this church. In a few short weeks she had converted the structure to an Art Gallery and hydro and telephone services have been installed. The colored glass windows and high beam ceiling make a perfect setting for her "Arts and Crafts" and the display area quite spacious, even with the pulpit still in place.

Mrs. Lamb has, in one short summer, made this into a real asset for this small community, but growing quickly with the tourist trade. The population increase is tremendous during the summer months.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Johnson were the first couple to be united in marriage in the Church of St. Andrews. They lived their whole life on the farm, adjoining the village.



St Andrews
Anglician
Church in
Dunchurch.