

Fundraising fashion show for Oxford District WI

RUTH SKILLINGS *Oct. 29, 2014*

Lakeside correspondent
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Oxford UCW Presbyterial Fall Event was held Monday at Etonia United Church. President Sandra Stock welcomed everyone and we started with a delicious and bounteous potluck dinner.

The meeting started with singing. Carol Tabor introduced the speaker, Rev. Jane Van Patter, who along with five other people travelled to Japan earlier in the year. Jane had pictures of churches and homes they visited; it was obvious that she really enjoyed her trip.

The area they visited was the farthest north island, which has a climate much like ours here. They visited the centre where Rob and Keiko Wittmer have been working for 40 years, and learned about the 3 Love group. The three Loves are God, people and soil.

The churches in this area of Japan are usually small; even a church was built that had two members. How was it done? The churches are joined by a group much like our Presbytery and each church pays into it to support its work. Then if a church is needed, it will be built by all the churches in the area.

On the day of the dedication



LAURA GREEN PHOTO

Just two months before Christmas, Oxford District Women's Institute hosted a "Swing into Fall" fashion show featuring fashions from Eden Bella Boutique and Roberts' Ladies Wear both from Woodstock. Thank goodness, the businesses left their winter coats back in the stores, but did show what's new for the upcoming party season. The event was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Woodstock. Proceeds are being shared by Operation Sharing (Woodstock) and Oxford District WI. Also on display were Scarves by Anya Donaldson and Katy's from St. Marys. In the photo are two of the of 16 models: Oxford's Queen of the Furrow for 2014-15 Mary Walton, left, and Embro Fair 2014-15 Ambassador Jenna Chalkley, right, who were modelling for Eden Bella. Standing in the middle is Tracy, owner of Eden Bella Boutique.

people came from all over and the church was packed and even standing outside. These buildings are very versatile and the space can be used for any need. The church with two members now has seven people out for worship.

Sandra Stock thanked Jane for her presentation and was given a gift basket.

Sharon Fraser gave the financial report and proposed budget for 2015, which was accepted. Other reports were given and accepted. The meeting closed with worship and the closing prayer.

The Spring into Fall fashion show was held Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Knox Presbyterian Church in Woodstock — a project of the Oxford District Women's Institute. Fashions were from two Woodstock dress shops. The age of local models went from five years to those well over 80 — something for everyone.

Refreshments were available and a number of displays were up and very interesting. Then the door prizes, there were many things that were donated by friends of Women's Institutes as well as the branches. Funds raised will go to Operation Sharing and Oxford District WI.