

Varied calendar major reason for church's growth

PART 2
Continued from
Wednesday's Herald

The sanctuary is unlike the former church in every possible way. It is modern in style and appearance where the old church had a colonial look.

The new addition also housed the Little Cherub Nursery School, the nursery areas for the church congregation, a kitchen and the pastor's study in the lower level.

Reverend Edwin Mitchell has been serving the Baptist community in Georgetown for three years and is the church's fourth pastor. He didn't start his career as a Baptist minister but wanted to be a farmer instead. A native of England, Reverend Mitchell studied at the School of Agriculture there before coming to Canada in 1949. He had intended to live in the Winnipeg area as a farmer when he attended a city-wide Baptist convention in Winnipeg in 1950. It was here that he made his profession of faith. He spent the next few

years studying at various colleges and seminaries throughout Canada and the U.S.

VERY BUSY
Reverend Mitchell and the church both have a very busy

schedule as the church offers a wide range of services for its 224 "immersed" believers. The church congregation actually numbers more, but immersed believers are those who have chosen to

become baptized and are immersed under water in a special ceremony. Reverend Mitchell said they can be any age when they first make this decision, from seven to 77.

Church services for the congregation are held each Sunday morning from 11 to 12. A supervised nursery is provided for the younger children. For the children who are a bit older there is a special Children's Church, Reverend Mitchell said, is to teach them how to worship more intelligently once they become immersed believers.

The Baptist church lays heavy emphasis on Sunday school for all ages from the child still in the crib to the senior citizen. Their Sunday school classes, unlike those at most churches, are held 52 weeks a year. There are ten different departments for all ages and the church ministers to the entire family. The Sunday school classes are held in the church from 9:45 to 10:45 before the regular service.

A second service is provided at 6:30 Sunday evening and the nursery is open once again for those with young children.

YOUTH MEET
Monday nights, the Pioneer Girls and the Christian Service Brigade meet. These

groups are the equivalents of the various scouts and guide groups, but Reverend Mitchell added they stress more of the spiritual aspect in their program. Over 100 children between the ages of eight and 16 participate.

Wednesdays, the church holds the young people's meetings, which are both recreational and spiritual in theme. Friday morning is the ladies coffee hour and women from the entire community, not just the congregation, are invited to have a cup of coffee, chat and work on various projects.

Once a month, the Jolly Seniors Club holds a meeting for all retirees from the congregation and the community. The church even provides transportation for the seniors from their homes to the church.

Perhaps one of the most vital links in the church organization is the Women's Missionary Group, which



meets once a month and works on projects all around the world. The women

maintain contact with a number of families who are working in other parts of the globe spreading the gospel and keep the congregation informed on their progress and accomplishments.

The most interesting program the church provides for its congregation is its cassette library. If you can't come to church, the church will come to you. Each service is taped and the tapes are available for those who want to listen to them again or those who aren't able to attend the service.

The church even has its

own library stocked with books on various spiritual themes.

Maple Avenue Baptist Church has experienced nothing but rapid growth in its 28-year history. Reverend Mitchell is hopeful that they can continue upward and said in last year's annual report that "If we grow consistently, as in the past year, we will double in size by 1986." He added that the sanctuary would then be filled to capacity. It would mean yet more expansion for a church that has grown amazingly in only 26 years.



'Terry's Marathon not over' - fund-raising runs planned

"Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope is not over - it's just beginning," the Canadian Cancer Society contends. Hoping Canadians of all ages will endorse those words, the Society is staging "Terry Fox Runs" in communities across the country.

The Halton Hills unit and its Acton branch are planning separate fund-raising runs in the two communities Sept. 13. Final details are still being arranged, so watch next week's Herald for

further information, including times for the runs and pick-up points for pledge sheets.

Georgetown area residents can join the run at Fairgrounds Park, where a ten-kilometre course offers plenty of room to earn pledged money for cancer research, the cause which carried Terry Fox halfway across Canada last year. The 22-year old amputee university student died in June at his Port Coquitlam, B.C.,

home. Halton Hills was one of hundreds of communities he visited during his Marathon of Hope.

The local Cancer Society unit is looking for volunteers to help organize and operate the Georgetown Terry Fox Run. In addition, any local businesses which would like to donate refreshments for the participants are invited to contact the unit office at 877-1124 or volunteer Claudette Smith at 877-7879.

In Acton, Jon Hurst, Gordon Auly and several other individuals who answered the Society's appeal for help in staging the event there will invite runners out to the Acton High School track Sept. 13 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Posters are being set up in various Acton stores and businesses announcing further details. Again, check the Herald for the four soon-to-be-announced locations for picking up pledge sheets.



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Campers at Terra Cotta enjoy Wednesday programs

Herald Special
More than 200 campers have enjoyed a continuing series of Wednesday evening programs this summer at Terra Cotta Conservation Area.

Open to anyone visiting the area, the programs include bird and animal identification, wildlife photography sessions, moonlight walks and wildlife film shows.

The programs will continue August 26 beginning at 6:45 p.m.

SATURDAY PROGRAMS
Nature interpretive programs have been conducted by Authority staff on Saturday mornings throughout the summer. Many people look

advantage of the opportunity to learn about the flora and fauna of the area.

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