

In its 103-year history, St. George's Anglican Church on Guelph Street in Georgetown has undergone relatively little structural change. Built on land that was donated by the town's first resident, George Kennedy, St. George's lies in a country-like setting of large trees and greenery. (Herald photo)

## St. George's congregation rebuilds after 'personal' loss

By ASTRA PAPE  
Herald Staff Writer

St. George's Anglican Church in Georgetown is at a crossroads in its 103-year history: the congregation suffered a severe blow in January with the sudden illness and death of their rector, Reverend Roswell Tees.

For the past eight months, the congregation has been without a permanent rector. Reverend Graham Bland of St. Alban's in Glen Williams and a former St. George's rector, John McMullin, have been temporarily serving the parish, but according to Reverend Bland, the congregation needs a rector of its own who can serve on a full-time basis.

Reverend Bland told The Herald recently that the St. George's congregation has had its ups and downs the past eight months and has been in a state of limbo following the loss of Reverend Tees. With the arrival this week of its 27th rector, Reverend Jim Boyles, the congregation will hopefully be able to settle down once again.

Reverend Boyles comes to Georgetown from the national office of the Anglican Churches of Canada in Toronto, where he's worked for the past six years as an ecumenical officer, dealing with many other denominations.

Reverend Boyles isn't the only theologian in his family. His wife, Sally, is also an ordained minister and has been serving the parish of St. John's Norway Anglican Church in Toronto.

Reverend Boyles will be serving an Anglican congregation that has its roots in the earliest days of Georgetown's history. Prior to 1840, Anglicans worshipped in Georgetown area homes and were served by itinerant ministers who travelled all over southern Ontario.

An Anglican parish was established in Georgetown in 1822, but the congregation had already built the first St. George's church in the late 1840s on the present Guelph Street site. The land for the church was donated by the town's founder, George Kennedy.

The first church was a simple frame structure with a tower and spire. It contained straight box pews and a square enclosure for the choir which has always played an important role in the services at St. George's.

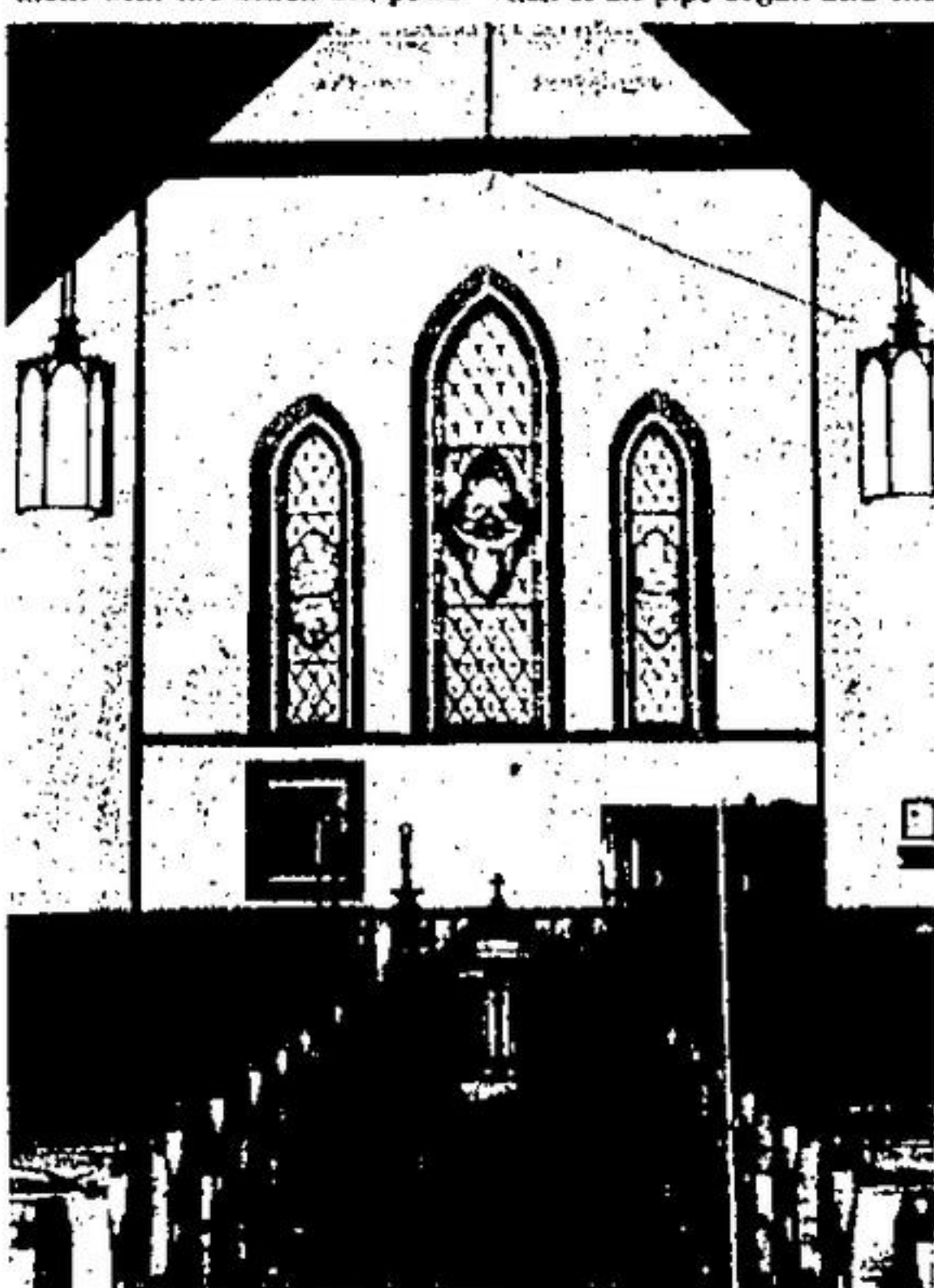
Between 1870 and 1875, talk in the congregation centred around the fact that they were slowly beginning to outgrow the tiny church and they discussed the possibility of building a new one. After much discussion and planning, the old church was torn down in 1878 and a new St. George's was built in its place at a cost of \$3,300.

The new church is a much sturdier structure, made of stone and mortar, and can seat approximately 200 worshippers. St. George's has undergone certain renovations in the intervening years, but its basic structure has remained



Fifth in a series

unchanged. In 1905, the seating was removed after the congregation tired of the uncomfortable pine pews and replaced them with the black ash pews



The addition of a new altar proved to be too much for the already crowded chancel of St. George's. The large choir was cramped and the addition of a new pipe organ took up even more space. Major renovations were carried out for the first time in St. George's history as the chancel was enlarged in 1921. (Herald photo)

still in use today.

The funding behind the new seats was raised in an unusual manner. Reverend Ian MacDonald was a young, popular minister with the youthful members of the congregation who organized and staged plays that performed to sell-out crowds in the old Town Hall. Through his efforts, the money to pay for the new seating was gathered in short order.

Approximately five years later, the congregation purchased a new pipe organ that was much larger than the one they had. The present altar was installed a few years later.

Those two new additions to St. George's made major renovations necessary by 1921. It had become obvious that the chancel was too small for the growing choir. With the addition of the pipe organ and the

altar, the space was even more cramped and reduced the amount of seating for the congregation.

It was decided to lengthen the chancel to provide an organ chamber on the south side at a cost of \$9,100. The basement of St. George's was connected to the vestibule by means of a staircase.

Two stained glass windows in memory of parishioners who fought and died during the First World War were installed above the sanctuary a few years later and were unveiled in a special ceremony by former Lieutenant-Governor, Colonel Henry Cockshutt.

The basement of St. George's had always been used as a meeting place by church groups and for other social activities. The quarters were very cramped, though, since there was little headroom. During the 1940s, the congregation decided to lower the basement floor, increasing the height of the basement from seven to nine feet. The new floor was made of concrete, not wood but in 1951, they reverted to the old wood floor and had a maple foundation laid on top of the concrete.

It had become apparent that the years had taken their toll on the church structure. The mortar was crumbling in

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## Bal-Erin reception for newest neighbors

By WINNIFRED SMITH  
Herald Correspondent  
877-2000

Joe and Catherine Mathews of Bal-Erin Farm entertained in honor of Midge and Ed McKelvey who will be moving to this neighborhood.

Among local friends attending were Barbara and Stewart Graham, Bonnie and Ed Schoenberg, Betty West and her sister, Given Moore of

Spalding, Lincolnshire, England, May and Dennis Cartwright, Maggie and Eric Haynes, Stuart Rowntree, Edith and Bill Clements of Altan and Isabel Dawson of Cambridge.

Glad to report that Dave Lindsay is recovering from surgery at Guelph General Hospital. His many friends hope he can return home soon. Frank Smith is still a patient

in McMaster Medical Centre at Hamilton where he is undergoing treatment.

Eileen Cotter and children from Nassau spent some time last week visiting with Lloyd and Lola Marshall and other relatives in the neighborhood.

Agnes McNery is in the Georgetown Hospital. We hope her stay will be a short one. There will be no service of Worship at Ballinacree Church, Sunday.

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## Come to Church

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GEORGETOWN ALLIANCE CHURCH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, September 6, 1981</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Come and Make Our Church Your Church Everyone Welcome</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R. RALPH 877-9816 853-3923</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">PASTOR EDWIN H. MITCHELL 877-6605; 877-0320</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL SUMMER LONG EVERY SUNDAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:45 a.m. Family Bible School 11:00 a.m. &amp; 6:30 p.m. Biblical Preaching</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WEEKLY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bible Study &amp; Prayer Youth Activities Baseball &amp; Recreation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Visitors always welcome 24 Years and Growing</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, September 6, 1981</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Third Canadian) 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Windsor Road at Carole St. PASTOR: REV. DR. J.M. DRICKAMER</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, September 6, 1981</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUMMER SCHEDULE 10 A.M. CHURCH SERVICE Church of the Lutheran Hour</p>

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# SENIORS... ONTARIO PROPERTY TAX GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Last year Ontario replaced its system of Tax Credits for seniors with a new program of Property and Sales Tax Grants to help offset municipal, school and retail sales taxes. The Property Tax Grant of up to \$500 per household is provided in two installments annually. The Sales Tax Grant is an automatic \$50 paid each year to all Ontario residents 65 and over.

### PROPERTY TAX GRANTS

**APPLICATIONS**  
The 1980 Property Tax Grant was paid to recipients in one payment. In 1981, the Grant is being paid in two installments. The first payment, sent automatically in the spring, was equal to one-half the amount of your 1980 Grant.

To qualify for the final installment you must submit an application to the Ministry of Revenue.

If you receive the federal Old Age Security pension, and are eligible, you will receive this application for your Property Tax Grant during the first half of September, 1981. Those who reach the age of 65 between now and December will receive their applications early in 1982.

Seniors who are not eligible for federal Old Age Security payments, but who have previously established eligibility for the Property Tax Grant will also receive an application.

The Ministry of Revenue is mailing applications only to those seniors who are thought to be

eligible. If you do not receive an application by September 21 and feel you qualify, please contact our toll-free Information Centre.

**ELIGIBILITY**  
If you're 65 or over and own or rent your home you're eligible for the Property Tax Grant of up to \$500.

If you rent your grant will total 20% of your rent or \$500, whichever is less.

If you own your principal residence your grant will equal the amount of your property taxes or \$500, whichever is less.

If you are married and reside with your spouse or if you share accommodation with someone over 65, only one grant will be paid per household.

If you share your home with anyone over 65 other than your spouse, the grant will be apportioned according to rent or property tax paid.

### Take care to complete your application form accurately!

Take a few extra minutes to fill out your application, and then check it again for accuracy. This makes it much easier for the Ministry to process your form and get your cheque to you.

Cheques will be mailed beginning the latter part of October.

**EXCEPTIONS**  
If you reside in a nursing home, a home for the aged or similar institution, you're not eligible for the Property Tax Grant unless you pay for the full cost of your care and the institution pays municipal and school taxes.

If you reside in a tax-exempt property, you are not eligible.

However, if you move into a tax-exempt property or a nursing home, home for the aged or similar institution during 1981, you are eligible for a Property Tax Grant based on your occupancy costs prior to your move.

If you moved permanently to Ontario during 1981, your Property Tax Grant is based on the time you resided in Ontario.

### SALES TAX GRANTS

The \$50 Sales Tax Grant cheques will be distributed automatically to all Ontario seniors in October.

### TOLL-FREE INFORMATION

In Metro Toronto, dial 865-8470  
In Area Code 807, ask the Operator for Zenith 8-2000  
In all other areas, dial 1-800-268-7121

Ministry of Revenue

George Ashe  
Minister  
T.M. Russell  
Deputy Minister

## ONTARIO TAX GRANTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS