

A variety of exciting items up for bid at gallery auction

Among the items on the block at this year's Silent Auction at The Latham Gallery is the use of a beautifully appointed yacht for a vacation in the British Virgin Island (value \$2,800 U.S.).

The yacht sleeps six and the prize has been donated by Stouffville resident Bill Murphy.

Other donations include a white and yellow gold ring, set with a garnet, from Barthau Jewellers; food baskets from A & P and Weston Produce; artistic works by Sharon Kinsman, Jackie Petrie and Dorothy Clarke McClure; tickets to the Toronto Symphony and Markham Theatre; \$200 worth of landscaping services from Bouwmeister Landscaping; a tax return from Sig Kusatz; antique glass from Jean Middleton; chocolates by Charlinda and gift certificates from John Lord's Books.

The items can be viewed at the gallery now and the auction will take place on Nov. 23 from 7:30 p.m. at the gallery.

The Art Auction will begin at 9 p.m. and will feature more than 70 original works.

Tickets for the evening are \$15 each and are available at the gallery.

SERVICE FILLS CHURCH
Ringwood Christian Church was filled to overflowing at its closing service on Nov. 3 and chairs had to be set up in the aisle to accommodate the large crowd.

Among the guest speakers were



Dan Schut, the last pastor, who told the congregation, "The heritage that this church founded is to be carried on."

Shirley Steckley and Ruth Fox sang 'In Times Like These You Need A Savior' and Diane Smith read from the Scriptures.

Members of sister churches on the same circuit attended and Rev. Jim Amy, who started attending the church when he worked for Emmanuel International, called the event "A celebration of 172 years of God's faithfulness."

Doris Kennedy (née Sinclair), who attended Ringwood for 70 years, was married there 59 years ago and recalled her childhood involvement in the church and her Sunday school teacher Ada Steckley (née Gower).

Kennedy and her husband were the second couple to be married in the church, the first being Lena Ramer and Dawson Davis.

The following members attended the service: Frances Vague, church clerk; Nora Nigh, trustee; Mac Keith, trustee; Clarence Fockler, trustee and treasurer; Shirley Steckley, Lulu Fockler,

Mildred Wilson, Diane Smith (née Fockler), Doris Kennedy and Dan and Lori Schut, along with many adherents and friends.

Clarence Fockler shared his earliest memories of his Sunday school class which was held on the upstairs balcony.

In 1974, Jim Byrnes preached his first sermon at the church. As a native of Northern Ireland, he was totally unfamiliar with local customs and recalled receiving much encouragement from the members.

He was there for several months before he discovered that Ada Steckley, who always sat in her own lawn chair in the aisle, was hard of hearing and, despite her regular attendance, couldn't hear a word he said during his sermons.

Clarence Fockler concluded the moving service with a prayer.

Udelle Wood, a former member of the church - the oldest in Whitchurch - told *The Tribune* that she would love to hear from anyone who may have pictures or written information about Ringwood Christian Church.

In particular, she is seeking photographs taken before the bell tower was destroyed by lightning around 1912.

She can be contacted at 640-3457.

An auction will be held at the church at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16 and items to be sold include pews and dishes.

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