



## STOUFFVILLE LIONS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BASKET PROJECT

December 1st to 16th, 2003

Donations of toys, gifts, non-perishable food items, will be collected and distributed to needy Stouffville families in time for Christmas by Stouffville Lions.

Donations may be dropped off at the following locations.

- Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville - 4th floor
- Lebovic Leisure Centre - Lobby
- Community Care Access Centre
- 28 Sandford Dr. upstairs
- Co-operators Insurance - Larry Irwin, Agent
- CIBC
- Birkett & Hassard
- Scotia bank
- TD Canada Trust
- Bank of Montreal
- Pace Savings & Credit Union
- Randy's Appliances

Confidential Referrals are Appreciated and will be processed with discretion

For further information regarding donations or for confidential referrals, please contact:

Lion President Helene Johnson 905 640-6134

Project Chairman Lion Ivan Harris 905 640-2264

- Watch for Stouffville Lions Events this season:
- 1) Christmas Tree Sales at Stouffville Sobeys
  - 2) Christmas Light Tour - Dec. 16th
- 67 Years of Service

# Church turns 100 with big move

BY HANNELORE VOLPE

Staff Writer

Stouffville Missionary Church is on the move again.

This time, though, it doesn't involve the wagons and horses and sheer muscle-power required 100 years ago. That was in 1903, when the congregation of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ first arrived in Stouffville. The church later became known as the Evangelical Missionary Church.

A century later, the congregation is looking forward to a new, larger church on Tenth Line next to the Stouffville Country Market. Work has already started and the building is slated for completion by fall 2004.

### OUTGREW MAIN STREET FACILITY

The church outgrew its present building on Main Street. Around 375 people come to Sunday services.

The church is served by senior pastor Rev. Lou Geense, administrative pastor Rev. Tim Soukup and Scott Clubine, the youth pastor. Karen Rae handles a multitude of tasks as secretary.

Pastor Geense, who has been at the church more than 10 years, acknowledges the church has undergone and embraced substantial change. "But it is a church that has never lost its identity or its calling," he said.

"The church began 100 years ago with a desire to have a faithful witness of the gospel in its community. Our vision is the same today."

This church is known not just for nurturing its own members, but for casting its eye to the world. About a dozen church members returned from Igoma, Tanzania, in May after putting



LOU GEENSE: Pastor says Stouffville Missionary Church has maintained vision for 100 years.

the finishing touches on a medical centre there.

The volunteers also installed computer systems and delivered a shipment of medical equipment. Another team from the church had helped with construction of the building four years ago.

The church, along with the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and local service clubs, recently partnered with Igoma. There are about 42,000 people in Igoma who are in desperate need of medicine, clothing, school supplies, basic hygiene supplies and sports equipment.

The partnership project will be launched at the ecumenical church service held at the Stouffville Country Market Sunday, Dec. 28.

For the past three years, a number of the church's young people have been helping aboriginal youth in

northern Manitoba. They help to run programs at the Eagle Bay Camp in the summer.

Local kids and their parents head to the Missionary church every Halloween to take part in their Family Fun Night, an alternative Halloween celebration. This year a clown was added to the usual offering of festive decorations, costumes, games and prizes.

The church's annual classic car show, moved this year to June from its usual early September date, brings the community together and benefits the Teen Challenge program. It helps young men fighting drug and alcohol addiction.

Throughout the year, the church hosts free community car washes, participates in the demolition derby at Markham Fair, holds a beach party for teens, a Super Bowl party and Women's Break craft classes.

### CHILDREN TO SENIORS

Its programs are for the youngest to the oldest members. Junior and senior youth groups meet for Bible studies and social evenings. OASIS (Older Adults Sharing in Service) meets the third Wednesday each month to exchange ideas, hear speakers or share a meal.

The VIP men's breakfast draws up to 150 men on the fourth Monday morning each month for speakers and programs.

The church has almost 25 house churches. These are satellite Bible study groups, which meet regularly in members' homes.

Stouffville Churches Welcome You

**BLOOMINGTON GOSPEL CHURCH**  
 13660 Ninth Line N.  
 (905) 642-4414  
 Dr. John B. Howarth, Pastor-teacher  
 Sunday, December 7th, 2003  
 9:30 am Sunday School  
 11:00 am Morning Worship Service  
 COMMUNION SERVICE  
 "Jesus Was Born To Preach"  
 Luke 4:42-44  
 6:00 pm Evening Service  
 "Act of the Holy Spirit"  
 Everyone Welcome

Welcome to  
**ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 6432 Main St. Stouffville  
 905-640-3151  
 Sunday December 7th, 2003  
 Guest Pastor  
 Dorothy Henderson  
 Time - 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday, December 14th, 2003  
 Church School Pageant  
 10:30 a.m.  
 Carols and Christmas Cheer  
 7:00 p.m.  
 A Friendly Family Church

**STOUFFVILLE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
 Sunday December 7th, 2003  
 10:00 am Morning Worship  
 6:00 pm Evening Service  
 Call Church 905-640-5696 for information  
 6853 Main St., Stouffville

**JOY**  
**STOUFFVILLE'S LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 6273 Main Street  
 Sunday, December 7th, 2003  
 We invite you to visit our services this week!  
 We're located right in the heart of town on Main Street at O'Brien.  
 Sunday School classes for the whole family at 10:00 am  
 Morning Service at 11:00 am  
 Afternoon Service at 2:00pm  
 905 640-2911  
 visit us at: www.lbc.on.ca  
 "Come grow with us"  
 The difference is worth the distance!

**Springvale Baptist Church**  
 Stouffville Rd. at Kennedy Rd.  
 905-887-5651  
 www.springvale.org  
 Senior Pastor: Bob Flemming  
 Associate Pastor: Bill Thornton  
 Student Ministries: Jay Sandiford  
 Worship & Music: Heather Thornton  
 Children's Ministries: Sharon Russell  
 Counselling Services: Karla Kamerman  
 Sunday December 7th, 2003  
 6:00 pm:  
 TFY-Kids Choir present:  
 "Operation Christmas Child"  
 Musical by Kathie Hill  
 Nursery Provided

**ST. MARK'S Catholic Church**  
 345 Glad Park Ave., Stouffville  
 905-640-6665  
 Sunday Masses  
 Saturday at 5pm  
 Sunday at 9 am & 11 am  
 Weekday Masses  
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
 at 7:30 pm

**STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH**  
 34 Church St. N. 905-640-1163  
 Worship Minister: Rev. Robert Nightingale  
 Rev. Dianne Graves  
 stouffvilleuc@bellnet.ca  
 Sunday December 7, 2003  
 10:30 am Worship Service  
 "The Holy Spirit at Christmas"  
 Choir Candlelight & Carol Service 7:00 p.m.  
 following service  
 Baby fold, Children's Worship & Youth Pac  
 Everyone Welcome

**Parkview Village**  
 12184 Ninth Line South, Stouffville  
 Sunday  
 December 7th, 2003  
 Pastor Ken Smith, Oak Ridges  
 Brethren in Christ  
 7:00 pm  
 Village Auditorium

**THE ANGLICAN PARISH of CHRIST CHURCH**  
 254 Sunset Blvd., Stouffville  
 The Rev. Robert A. Shields  
 (905) 640-1461  
 Saturday, December 6th, 2003  
 9:00 am Breakfast with Santa  
 Sunday, December 7th, 2003  
 Second Sunday of Advent  
 8:00 am Holy Communion  
 10:00 am Service of Lessons and Carols  
 with Church School and Nursery  
 Everyone Welcome!  
 e-mail: christchurch.stouffville@sympatico.ca  
 web site: www3.sympatico.ca/christchurch.stouffville

To Advertise your place of Worship  
 Contact Susan Berry  
 @ 905-642-1908 ext.221