

UCW MEMBERS OF KINGSTON PRESBYTERIAL MEET ... WITH OPEN EYES, EARS AND THOUGHTS ...

In spite of recent controversy in the United Church, over 150 United Church women from over the Kingston Presbyterial banded together with enthusiasm to explore the theme "Open Our Eyes That We May See" at Cookes' Portsmouth United Church, Kingston.

By means of music and worship, centred upon love and justice, and with interesting speakers morning and afternoon, they successfully achieved their objective. Each of the five sections, Brockville, Collins Bay, Elgin, Kingston and Sydenham made a presentation based on the theme - opening eyes, ears and thoughts.

An entertaining and meaningful skit from landfill site SMOG found models in a fashion show depicting various forms of garbage and pollution.

The morning speaker, Mrs. Deena Streek, at present a resident of Adolphustown area, had lived for 57 years in South Africa. Giving a vivid picture of life and conditions in that country, she traced some of the history from the time of Cape of Good Hope's settlement by the Dutch. A youthful participant in politics, she later became a member of the Black Sash Movement which works to help Blacks deal with unfair laws imposed on them, assisting them in obtaining legal advice. "It should be mandatory for Black people to be educated in the same manner as the Whites," she said. She pointed out how sanctions can cause great hardship to the black people, causing the men to lose jobs and the children to suffer.

Rev. David Spivey, travelling from Campbellford to speak in the afternoon, did so with humour and sincerity. He advised listeners never to stop being curious, to seek the truth, to probe and to learn. In a story which traced the questioning of a young girl who attended church with her parents from the age of one year to grown up years, he gave her questions as she wondered aloud at the solemnity and the ritual within the church and also her parents' embarrassed reaction to her innocent curiosity. Rev. Spivey said that every generation tries to silence or quiet questions. "The Spirit of God asks questions in troubled times and we must hear them seriously and reply honestly."



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