



# Focus on Floradale

Volume XXXII No. 1

Floradale Mennonite Church

February, 2016

## Children's Christmas Pageant "Christmas Hang-Ups"

On Sunday, Dec. 20, the children presented their Sunday School pageant. In the photo on the right, Christmas ornaments Kate (snowman), Alana (angel) and Emma (star) are excited about being on display for another Christmas season, while part of the choir sings in the background.

Angela Ishaka led the children's pageant and the choir. The musical had ten songs with lots of action in between. The true meaning of the Christmas story was introduced after the Christmas decorations were not being inclusive and making "souvenir" ornaments feel excluded.

The younger children played a wide variety of Christmas ornaments. Among them



were (from left) Bronwyn and Bryson as spiders and Elijah as a hockey player. In behind, Steve Bauman played the role of Joseph and Carly is the Hula girl.

Romy and Adelyn Schill were scheduled to play the role of Mary and the baby Jesus, but due to illness Katie Gerber stepped in at the last minute.

Thank you to Angela for bringing it all together. Thank you also for Casey Cressman who played the accompaniment on the piano, to Rita Bauman, Jane Hesselink and Steve Bauman for the costumes and set and to Doug Draper for organizing the sound.

See more of the children's costumes on page 2.

*(Photos by Jerry Hesselink)*

## Characters from the children's musical, Dec. 20



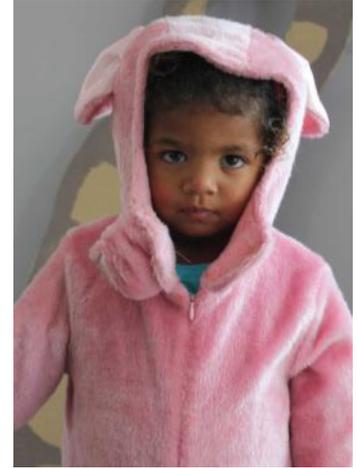
*Jay as Tex*



*Carly as the Hula girl*



*Kate as the snowman*



*Safi and Little Piggy*

## Relief kit project

Sometime during Advent, Merri-Lee Metzger led a children's time in which she encouraged the children, and also adults, to bring items for relief kits to church. By the time Christmas rolled around, there were piles of towels, toothbrushes, soap and other relief kit items piled under the Christmas tree in the foyer. Apparently one day some pranksters started decorating the tree branches with some of the items!

Thank you to everyone who contributed. Relief kits with their four towels and various types of soap probably cost from \$60 to \$80 to put together. Floradale was able to contribute 25 relief kits in December.

Thank you also to Merri-Lee who used her talent in bird photography to make calendars available for sale and donating the proceeds to MCC. Her donations and others provided another \$500

## Youth help with Out of the Cold

*By Carmen Read*

For our last youth event, we were helping at Out of the Cold at Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church in Kitchener. We were busy making chickpea soup, peeling potatoes (even if we didn't really know how which resulted in some cuts and scrapes) cutting sausages, cooking them, and decorating cupcakes.

Lou, the lady in charge, and Carol, the head chef for the evening kept a strict schedule and always had a next job for us to do. Though about half way through, we all took a small break to eat a snack that the two ladies brought.

As the afternoon slowly turned into early evening, people started to gather outside the doors, even if it was chilly out. By the time 5 o'clock rolled around, and the doors to the church were opened there were about 50 people waiting to be welcomed. Each one looked as though they knew exactly where to go when they got down to the basement of the church.

I never thought that there were that many people in need of food out there, but it's nice to know that as Lou told us, most people now have a place to sleep and a place to live, just not enough money for food to eat.



*Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church*



# Living Ink: Letting Go of the Pen

A reflection on the Lenten season

By Nancy Mann

As I write this article, we are preparing for the season of Lent, and by the time you read it, we will be embracing this season of our Christian year. The length of the Lenten season was established during the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, as a period of 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday (excluding the Sundays). This year Lent begins on February 10 and ends on Easter Sunday, March 27. Lent is historically a period of fasting, moderation and self-denial.

As Christians in the modern world, how do we embrace such spiritual disciplines as fasting, moderation and self-denial? Sometimes people choose to abstain from a simple pleasure, such as drinking coffee, eating sweets or snacking after dinner. When we commit to these things, we develop self-discipline which can help shape and form our Christian character.

It is good to remember that Jesus taught that fasting should be done discreetly: *“And when you fast, don’t make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees*

*everything, will reward you (Matthew 6: 16 – 18 NLT).*

We apply this principle by not “boasting” about our Lenten disciplines. They are personal choices that we make for our spiritual growth, not badges of honour for us to boast about in the Christian community.

Sometimes people choose to add a spiritual discipline to their daily routines. This might include reading a part of the Bible daily, or reading through another devotional book during Lent. Here in our congregation, we have been challenged to read the whole Bible through in one year. If you have undertaken this task, it may become part of your Lenten devotional time. If not, perhaps you could set a simpler goal: to read one chapter of the Bible every day. You may wish to attend some of the ecumenical mid-week Lenten services which are offered in our community during the Lenten season. (Times and locations will be listed in the church bulletin.)

This year, our worship theme during Lent is “Living Ink.” If we consider our lives being “written on a page” through our actions every day, do we allow God to be our “co-author,” as we release the pen and give God some control over what is written? Perhaps during the Lenten season we can reflect on how much we allow God to work in us and through us to accomplish God’s kingdom purposes. Perhaps you would like to journal your thoughts on this question as you reflect and pray during the season of Lent.

“The unexamined life is not worth living.” This quotation, often attributed to the Greek philosopher Socrates, reminds us that times of self-reflection are important for spiritual growth. May the Lenten disciplines you choose and our Lenten worship together strengthen you in your Christian walk in new and surprising ways!

## Got Talent?? Sure you do! Mennonites Got Talent

Come out for a night of laughter and amazement as our church displays their performing gifts for all to see.

Saturday, Feb. 27th  
7 p.m. at the Church

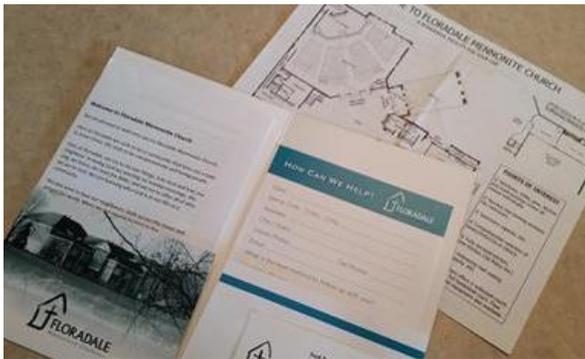


Come to sing, play a kazoo, perform a skit or chust come to sit and enchoy, once.

## Thank you pizza lunch for church greeters - Jan. 17, 2016

A group of approximately 55 church greeters (current 100 greeters on our list) enjoyed a pizza lunch on Sunday, January 17 and received some information that the Welcoming Committee has been working on over the past few months.

A new welcome folder was presented to the group which we suggest would be on a permanent Welcoming Table in the foyer.



*Some parts of the welcome package for new people interested in knowing about our church.*

Also the church greeter roles and responsibilities were reviewed.

Pastor Nancy Mann had some participants to enact a quick skit to demonstrate the potential awkwardness new people may experience when attending church. Everyone shared openly on how we might be able to reduce this awkwardness.

There were many wonderful ideas shared during this lunch session. Church Council will discuss how we might incorporate some of these ideas in the life and programs within the church. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed.

We were thankful to have six or so new greeters join this group to find out details about the church greeter role.

Some of the same wel-

come information will be shared with the entire congregation during the upcoming March 20<sup>th</sup> potluck lunch.

Thanks,  
*Dan Bender*  
Community Life Chairperson



*The skit led by Nancy Mann showed that it can be hard for an outsider to feel included.*

## Focus on Floradale flashbacks

In February 1991, there was an article entitled "Faces of Love" by Richard Yordy which I think ties in nicely with our theme of "Being a Welcoming and Affirming Community: Walk with Each Other." Here is an excerpt from that article:

Love can be fraternal. This term for love (phileo) has the most frequent usage in the New Testament when describing human relationships. Fraternal love binds siblings together in a family; residents in a neighbourhood and members in the fellowship of the church. "Let each of you look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others."

The supreme love is God's love. God's love is totally unselfish and is summed up in the phrase "God is love." There is a special word in the New Testament for this quality of love which we cannot express in English. It is *agape*. All other loves involve giving and receiving. Sometimes in the name of love, there is an unselfish love. However, God's love is the goal. It never ends. It is

symbolized by the cross, for there we see its sacrificial quality. God's love is tough love, helping us to be responsible and to find what we truly need, rather than simply giving us what we seem to want on the surface.

God's love is an example for all other dimensions of love. It is described in the beautiful words of 1 Corinthians 13:

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant. It does not insist on its own way; it is not resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends... Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.*

And the greatest of these is love.

*By Richard Yordy*  
Former interim pastor

# Feeling excluded is painful

By Mary M. Martin

At our recent meeting, the *Focus* committee decided that for this issue we would reflect on what it takes to be a welcoming church, to be supportive of each other, or as Paul says in 1 Thess.5:11 how to “encourage one another and build one another up.” During our discussion we came to realize that we were really talking about inclusion and exclusion and for me, this realization deepened the conversation in how to be a welcoming church. We know that to feel welcomed, to feel included is a good experience but to feel excluded is painfully different.

I believe that as a church we are pretty good at welcoming people but that we struggle to be truly inclusive. I wonder whether the struggle of the early Anabaptists to be separate from the state contributes to a deep unconscious attitude of exclusion.

I know from personal experience that the feeling of exclusion happens even when no one meant it to happen, nor was it any one’s fault, it just was. I will share two experiences that happened in my early widowhood before I had learned to prepare myself for the unexpected or to steel myself against possible pain or to choose not to attend the events. My purpose in sharing is not to judge anyone but rather to help us understand how exclusion does happen.

I was at a New Year’s Eve party with other people from church. At midnight following the countdown the couples greeted the New Year with a kiss. I was caught off guard and felt awk-

ward standing there. Those that saw what had just happened felt badly too, judging by the look on their faces.



A few months later I was at a valentine’s party at Elmira Mennonite church at an event for people of both churches. I don’t remember the exact topic but after some input the facilitator asked the couples to face each and to hold each other’s hands and to participate in some exercise. Again I was surprised by the unexpected turn of events and felt completely broadsided. I know the others at the table felt badly too and one couple quickly offered to be a threesome. They meant well but the hurt had already happened.

In looking back I can understand a lot of what happened. One thing that did not happen and it would have helped to soften the sting of exclusion, was to have been to be able talk about it. In their discomfort and in their desire not to hurt me more, they said nothing. I was left with painful, conflicting emotions and because I didn’t feel free to talk about it, my feeling of exclusion was compounded.

Today we at Floradale are not a real closed community, but there are still elements of it present. It

can be hard for someone from the outside to feel like they fit in and to feel like they belong. We are presented with an opportunity to learn from each other rather than focus how different the other is. My daughter-in-law from New York knows absolutely nothing of Woolwich Township Mennonites, and for her to feel included in my family I needed to find ways to bridge our differences. Bridging can be as simple as respecting each other’s food culture such as having corned beef on St. Patrick’s Day or egg cheese at Easter.

Have you ever felt intimidated when you walked into the foyer on a Sunday morning? When it looks like everyone is talking to someone but you are standing alone or when it seems everyone else fits in and belongs, but you don’t, what would you like or need at that moment? Would you willing to offer this to someone else who seems to feel outside of the group?

I do want to acknowledge the effort that the church makes to be inclusive and to be supportive of each other. I have reflected more on exclusion because I think we are unaware of how often it happens or in what way it can happen.

For me, being inclusive doesn’t mean that I discount my personal beliefs, values or experiences but it does mean that I listen to and try to understand the other person, respect their beliefs/opinions and accept that being different doesn’t make one right and the other wrong.



## Fostering a welcoming community

By Fred Redekop

The editorial committee of the *Focus on Floradale* has asked fundamental questions for the church this month. How do we create a community of believers that are welcoming? We all want to feel like we belong here at the church. We want to feel loved and cared for, and especially listened to in our lives.

So, how do we make this happen in the church. You need a group of people you know. We have started small groups here at the church. They are going well. Would you like to be in one? Let me know.

Maybe my weekly blog can foster community. How could my writing do it better? Do you feel that your questions and beliefs are heard in my blog?

We all go through rough times in our lives. Do you feel accepted here to share with someone about a thing you are through at this time? We must make this place very safe. No judgment, just mercy and forgiveness.

The *Focus* committee asked the following question “Do you ever feel intimidated walking into the foyer?” I do. I get over it once I begin to say hello to one person. But, it is the same every week. It is something to think about. I love coming here, so it is a strange feeling I get.

Finally, we must offer what God has blessed us with, to others. We cannot always come to church to just receive. We can bless others with words, music and the Spirit of God.

## Welcoming is done well

By Rob Martin

When I was asked to respond to the question about how to be a welcoming church I wasn't sure how to respond. Cheryl and I have been involved with some of the members here socially outside the church so it doesn't feel that we are new to the congregation.

We were also married here due to construction at Elmira Missionary church almost 30 years ago and I was baptized here as well. After 20-plus years of not attending here, the thing that is most striking is the passage of time and how it has changed people including myself.

I think Floradale does a good job of welcoming people with the greeters on your way in on Sunday mornings and with people who host as well. Cheryl and I were invited out one Sunday but it didn't work because I was heading out that afternoon but it is a form of welcoming.

On a personal note, the morning I preached the sermon while Fred was away, I was shocked at how many people mentioned my father on the way out of the auditorium. It happened to be the 39th year of his death to the day, and after so many years you tend not to use him as a reference for identity. It was a pleasant surprise and I want to say “thank you” for doing that. It is also a testament to how you as a congregation view community.

I think people will choose to engage if they are so inclined, and maybe they just need a place to break up the week, but I think that what is being done is being done well.

## Nurturing relationships

By Angela Ishaka

How can we nurture relationships? How or when do you experience being nurtured?

I think we need to try to notice who is in need of relationship around us. We go through different phases in our lives when we need relationship more than other times. I know that when I was single, I needed people around me more than I do now with our little people at home. Being invited over to someone's house for a game or a meal is always something that helps me feel like I belong.

Some people (like myself)

need to feel connected to a larger group like our church, and then to feel useful within the church. I think it is



important to invite people to volunteer so that they feel part of the broader church, and so that they get to know others. This can be the start of building friendships that are strong beyond a Sunday morning greeting.

I also felt excluded and disconnected when I had just moved to a new place (Toronto, Costa Rica, Sudbury). You are especially vulnerable when you are not surrounded by people and things that are familiar to you. So it can be extra special to extend an invitation of hospitality to someone who is new to Floradale church, or to the community, or to Canada.

# Being a welcoming and affirming community

## Walking with each other

By Nicole Woeschka

Most of the time during our *Focus* committee meetings, as we discuss the topics, themes, directions for the upcoming issue, I have an article already forming in my head. By the time I actually get around to writing my article(s), I have usually rewritten them in my head several times. With this theme, however, I find myself struggling to form words.

Some of the statements, questions and verses that were brought up in the most recent meeting were:

As we strive to be a welcoming church, we also need to build community. What are some ways we can foster community and nurture relationships?

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up just as you have been doing."

What helps you feel included in the Floradale community? What makes you feel excluded? Have you ever found walking into the foyer at church intimidating?

For myself, I think about how I viewed church as a child and compare it with how I view it as an adult. Each time I think about it I wonder: when did my viewpoint change?

When I was a child, church was one of the safest places in the world. My family was there. I knew everyone there. I knew, without a doubt, that everyone around me was there for me if I ever needed them. Walking into church I knew I had a big group of friends waiting for me in my Sunday School classroom and a teacher waiting with a smile.

I participated in the worship services as I grew older and then

eagerly and proudly accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I also remember loving my experience as a high school student in the MYF group. Once again, I had a group I belonged to; where I was accepted and where I was supported. We went on trips, we learned together, and we even WON Bible Quizzing together!

Now, I am unsure of the point at which I stopped feeling part of a group and more of an outsider in my own congregation. I can only blame myself for this as I know there were groups I could have joined when I graduated from MYF.

As an adult when I walk into the foyer and see all the happy little groups of people chatting I have this feeling of anxiety: where do I go? Why is it that as an adult, when one would think you would be the most comfortable, am I feeling anxious and nervous about entering my own church?

The answer to the question, "Have you ever found walking into the foyer at church intimidating?" is yes. But why is this? I have no idea!

Why is the idea of going to church a cause for anxiety? Am I the only one feeling this way? One can feel like a stranger in your own church and it is possible to feel alone in a crowd of family and friends.

I am so glad that at Floradale Mennonite Church we have fantastic greeters every Sunday; they definitely ease the anxiety and tension of walking in.

## It's important to encourage, affirm and include

By Tim Greenwood

Community and inclusion. These are two words that carry a lot of meaning, and two words I believe this church takes seriously. From the many roles we have developed over the years, to the simple act of greeting each other as we walk in on a Sunday morning, building and fostering relationships with visitors, newcomers, and familiar faces alike is second-nature to the Floradale church family.

I have been no exception to this, and over the years, I've felt the encouragement and inclusion of this church many times. When I first started attending, it was as a visitor. Often I would be with the Metzgers, usually following a weekend spent at their house. Even though my attendance was not a frequent thing, I was made to feel like a regular part of the Sunday school lessons.

I may not have realized it then, but looking back, I often am struck with how much that simple act can go towards making a young boy feel comfortable and accepted. One of the first times I can remember being given any kind of role in the church was the Father's Day chocolate bar hand-out. Being asked to give chocolate to the men we all looked up to was always fun, and there was usually leftovers too which was fine by us.

Roles like this may seem insignificant or simple in respect to many positions in the church, but



## Friendship and belonging

even being asked to provide that service, to be of use, can make all the difference between going through the Sunday rhythms, and seeking more ways in which to enrich the community more.

We have many of the roles in our church. Music, scripture readings, they all contribute and affect the involvement (especially the future involvement) of those being included. I've been welcomed, and encouraged, and given opportunities like many others (being asked to join the *Focus* Committee is just another example). And that's what Floradale does best I think.

It's not just the warm welcomes or kind words. It's the continual belief in each other's abilities to create an even more vibrant and fulfilling community. It's showing the foresight to give roles to the younger generation *along-side* the older generations. It's being inclusive not of just the consistent and accustomed faces, but of those not-so-frequent ones. Those individuals whose worth is known, but it takes a little to coax out.

Of course, we're not perfect, but as a church, even trying in this regard goes a long way to building that community. So as we continually move forward in fostering greater community, why not extend that extra handshake to the new face in the foyer (although I know we already do).

Take it upon yourself—if you don't already—to encourage the youth, and the young adults, and the adults, and everyone else. Anyone you see, or maybe those you see regularly. Because when it comes down to it, encouraging, affirming, including. You can never have too much, but you can certainly do too little.

By Mary Frey Martin

It was 44 years ago when I first came to Floradale Mennonite as a 14-year-old girl who did not know anybody. I did not want to be there, in fact, I had many friends in the Markham Mennonite church and I didn't want to leave them. But my parents were leaving the Markham church, and so I wasn't really comfortable staying there either.

I still remember walking into Floradale that first time. Not a good feeling, such a duck out of water. Shortly after I walked in, Lois Brubacher, a girl my age who I vaguely recognized, approached me and asked me if I would like to sit with her in church. After church, she invited me to go home with her for lunch. If I remember correctly, her mother served us hotdogs—nothing gourmet. I felt welcomed, and soon I had friends at Floradale and felt at home in the youth group.

I don't know what would have happened if nobody had approached me to befriend me that first Sunday. From what I have seen and heard, people who feel comfortable and have friends in the church stay, and sadly others who have had bad experiences socially do not stay in the church.

For many years, and even to this day, a prime motivator to get up Sunday morning and come to church, is to see the people. (If all we want is worship, we can watch it on TV.) And so, making friends is key in my opinion. That doesn't happen as readily on a Sunday morning as it does through other small group activities in the church. But it starts on Sunday mornings.

I find it much easier to just approach and talk to people I know. I mean,

what does one SAY to someone you don't know? However, it is critically important that a first-time person is made to feel welcome. A few words of chit-chat can make a real difference.

I would like to say that I gladly invite newcomers home for lunch, but I don't very often. My mother did that so easily; growing up if we weren't going to someone's home for Sunday lunch, we had someone in for lunch. That is true community building. But I find myself jealously guarding most of my Sunday afternoon time to nap and read. The difference is that my mother stayed home all week and so Sunday was all about community. I'm in the thick of people all week, and want Sunday afternoon for myself.

I have entered the lobby of the new church already and felt a sense of aloneness, when small groups of people are talking, and I'm not sure what to do. I have had to force myself to look around for someone else standing alone to approach, or to just simply join a group, if they didn't want me to come along, too bad.

Having friends in the church is really of key importance. Writing this has been a good reminder for me to keep working away at connecting with others. Having said that, it is Sunday afternoon and I'm going to go take a nap now.



# Evald Carlson

July 23, 1927 – Jan. 11, 2016

Evald Carlson peacefully entered into the presence of his Lord and Saviour on Jan. 11, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, his children Phillip (Rebecca), Peter, Robert (Tammy), and Donna Maurice (Ron). He was a special stepfather to Keith Metzger (Irene), Ken Metzger (Sophie), Karen Atkinson (Dave) and Kathy Campea (Bruno).

He is also survived by his sister-in-law Eleanor Carlson, and siblings Rose Tulloch (Sam), Lillian Haug, Gloria Hurtubise (Horace), Elmer Carlson (Maureen) and Elina Bouchard. He was a precious Grandpa to 21 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Evald was the son of the late John Emil and Aina Carlson. He was predeceased by his first wife, Thelma, his son Mark, and his siblings Edwin Carlson (Mary), Gladys Carlson, Ernest Carlson, Rose Tulloch (Sam), Irene Allen (Leonard), and Eddie



Carlson. He was also predeceased by his sister-in-law Rosaline and brother-in-law Carl Haug.

On Jan. 30, 1993, Evald married Katherine Metzger (nee Gingrich). For the first 18 years of their marriage they lived in Blind River, Ontario. Before his retirement, Evald had been a commercial fisherman and fished the North Channel of Lake Huron. For a few years they had two homes, one in Blind River and the other in Linwood where they lived in an apartment above the vet clinic owned by Katie's son, Ken Metzger. In 2011 they sold the house and lived in Linwood year-round. It was at this time that they began attending Floradale Mennonite and were also involved at Wallenstein Bible Chapel where Evald knew some people.

A funeral was held at Calvary Gospel Church in Blind River on Wed. Jan. 20, 2016. In the obituary, Evald's family said, "A special thank you to Katherine for her care and compassion that she has provided Dad, particularly throughout these last few years." Donations in lieu of flowers went to the Gideons, the Alzheimer's society and Calvary Gospel Church.

## New Hamburg Mennonite Relief Sale stories

In May of this year Floradale Mennonite Church will be making tea balls for the 50<sup>th</sup> year in succession. It began as a women's project, but it has always required the help of the whole congregation.

Since this is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the relief sale, the relief sale committee is looking for stories from past sales. If anyone would like to write down a story, send it to [reliefsalestories@gmail.com](mailto:reliefsalestories@gmail.com). If you would like to tell your story for someone else to write down, please contact Barb Draper, or others on the *Focus* committee (Mary M. Martin, Nicole Woeschka, Tim Greenwood). There must be lots of tea ball stories to share!!

## Proposal for Generosity Fund

Decisions on what will be disbursed from the Floradale Generosity Fund will be made at the annual meeting on Sun. Feb. 21. The Finance committee has received a variety of requests and makes the following recommendations for dispersals for 2016:

- a) \$5,000 to House of Friendship to renovate their food hamper building.
- b) \$50,000 to MennoHomes for their new accessible, affordable-housing building in Elmira.
- c) \$5,000 to Meserte Kristos College in Ethiopia for their scholarship fund to allow training of pastors. This is for one year. Re-application is required for scholarships for subsequent years.
- d) \$5,000 for international participants to travel to a peacebuilding conference to be held at Conrad Grebel University College.



*Focus on Floradale* is published five times per year.

**Editor:** Barb Draper

**Editorial Committee:**

Tim Greenwood  
Mary M. Martin  
Nicole Woeschka

# Anniversaries

Congratulations to Oscar and Joan Martin who will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 19, 2016.

Congratulations to Willis and Eileen Freeman who will celebrate 35 years of marriage on April 4, 2016.

Elroy and Sue Martin will celebrate 20 years of marriage on March 2, 2016.

Monique and Tony Roes celebrated their fifth anniversary on Feb. 5, 2016.



*Some women from church helped Ermina Martin celebrate her 90th birthday in December at Chartwell Elmira Retirement Residence. The group was small because Ermina didn't want a big party. Standing from left: Irene Freeman, Eleanor Buehler, Mary Frey Martin, Fern Metzger, Alice Weber, Lovina Martin, Nancy Mann. Seated left: Marilyn Diefenbacher and Ermina Martin.*

# Uganda wedding

Vincent Omot was an IVEPer (International Visitor Exchange Program), serving at the Elmira thrift store, in 2013-2014. He lived with Ross and Veg Weber and came to church at Floradale. Ross and Veg had the opportunity to travel to Uganda to attend his wedding.



*Vincent and Immaculate left. Above is a table with beautifully decorated wedding cakes. The cake in the middle says, "Immaculate introduces Vincent." Notice also the place given to Mountain Dew in glass bottles.*