
The Handshake

CELEBRATION OF FAITH

The 30th annual Celebration of Faith of the men of the United Church was held Trinity Western University at Langley on May 23, 24, and 25, with seventy men in attendance.

The theme speaker was Dr. Barry Moore, the principal of Fraser Valley College in Abbotsford and his theme was, "There is only one God". It was a rewarding and meaningful weekend. An new feature was the creation of five workshops of which you could attend two. All men expressed their praise of weekend, a time when we learned and experienced that we of the Christian faith have so much to thank our God for.

The weekend was chaired and hosted by Elliot Gould and Frank MacLean ably assisted by Greg Darychuk, Lorne Barber, Bill Pike, and Bruce Korstrum. Since it has been agreed to by virtue of motions passed at the 1986 AOTS Roundup (March 86) that the Celebration is now under the wing of the AOTS, we are now assured that these annual spiritual weekends for the men of the United Church will continue for years to come.

We urge all men to come and enjoy a spiritual weekend to build up your energy to join God's army and fight the good fight for Jesus Christ in this our world. So see you in Langley, May 29, 30 and 31, 1987.

Submitted: Frank MacLean

T H E 1 9 8 6 R O U N D U P

A "resounding success" sums up the 33rd annual AOTS Roundup at South Burnaby United Church on March 8.

Enthusiasm for men's work in the church ran high among the 106 delegates from 14 churches who attended, an enthusiasm that continued to mount as theme speaker Jon Jessiman talked of the importance of men's activities of the church.

"God so loved the world He didn't send a committee," Jessiman, a law professor at UBC told his listeners as he challenged them to become active Christians. Stressing the role of the laity, he pointed out that strength is increased as Christians join hands and work together. "We are each called to fill a specific role on earth," he said. "As God's servants we are on a journey of faith and developing faith is a process".

Jack Blain, president of the South Burnaby AOTS club welcomed delegates to the Roundup after which the Rev. Russ Beasto led a devotional service.

Bill Cumming, provincial AOTS president, urged men to become active at the Presbytery and Conference level, and Don Morton reported on national activities.

Roundup Business sessions included reports from Vancouver Island and mainland clubs, a UCM report by Frank MacLean and a report on United Church camping by Jack Way in which he stressed the importance of this dimension of our church life. Much-enjoyed singing was led by Bill Anderson, Bob Bagshaw and Jim Anderson.

The Bell award went to St. Giles Club and the Crest award went to South Burnaby Club. ✕ (See page 2)



GILMORE PARK

8 am on Sunday morning is not the usual time for a mens group meeting, but that is the time for the men at Gilmore Park United Church. Last June 15, 21 men attended for breakfast, fellowship and a message. Glen Forrester chaired the breakfast and introduced the speaker, Ken Jarvis, a Baptist minister from London, England.

His message was based on John 2 where Jesus turns water into wine, "Do as he tells you." We were told to listen for the demands of Jesus. We are to do as Jesus desires. Sometimes this is not easy to do. If we have a prayerful heart we will hear Jesus' message and will know what is wanted of us. We must act and obey, putting his will into action, whatever He wants us to do.

The men of Gilmore Park United meet for breakfast, fellowship and a message every six weeks. The next meeting is Sept 21. Contact Glen Forrester at 271-2530 for details.

X In addition to formal Roudup proceedings, 15 ladies who accompanied the delegates spent a memorable day seeing the sights of

LAUNCHING A MISSION IN COMMUNICATION

With this first issue of a brand new series of THE HANDSHAKE the National Council of AOTS through its Archivist offers congratulations and best wishes to those who are continuing a heritage of communication that spans some 60 years.

We have in the Archives, copies of past HANDSHAKES, a name that starts very soon after the movement was founded. Past editors include Jim Bain, D.R. Poole, and Bob Browning.

As a somewhat sporadic editor through the '80's it will be my pleasure to carry on as part of THE HANDSHAKE by bringing you bits and pieces of the heritage of the men of the Church that has been accumulated in the AOTS archives.

Submitted: W.G. (Dr. Bill) Hastings, National Archivist AOTS.

Vancouver, enjoying trips on the SkyTrain and SeaBus, and attending the evening dinner meeting at which the Rev. Andy Owen was speaker.

COLLINGWOOD XMAS LUI

Keep the first Saturday in December open for a time of fellowship at Collingwood United Church. Further details will be in the next HANDSHAKE about this annual event.

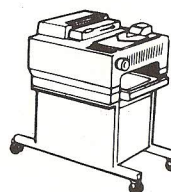
ESQUIMALT UNITED AOTS REPORT

The club has been active in a number of projects at the church and in the community. Sixteen tons of paper were sent for recycling, and help was given in church cleanup and paintup. A financial contribution was given to the Church to assist in the Church Library Project. We have had visits from the Island District Council President, Dick Gale, and from South Burnaby. We would recommend to any other mens group that if they can arrange to have Wayne LeBlanc of Gordon United speak on his meeting in Florida last January to do so, you are in for a treat, as well as a message.

Our events for the fall include a tour of the MV Anastasis hopefully in September.

Submitted: Roy K. Jones

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GORDEN UNITED REPORT

Gordon United (Victoria) has had an average attendance of 24 to 28 men per meeting of its AOTS club. Our Ladies' Night saw the presentation of a Life Membership to Victor Peterson, our secretary, for his many years of faithful membership and work for the club. A presentation was given to the local Diabetes Association. Jack Law, a former member of our club, accepted the donation on behalf of the Association.

We sponsored Curtis Sage to attend the 30th annual Celebration of Faith at Langley, and 13 of our members attended the Roundup in March.

Our vice president, Wayne LeBlanc, was selected to attend the Christian Mens Conference at Orlando, Fla. last January. He was supported by the clubs on the Island and has reported to these clubs and at the Roundup

Submitted: Howard James

DISTRICT COUNCIL

AOTS Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley Area District Council President Bill Cumming has made several visitations this Spring to various AOTS and mens groups. He has visited at Crescent Beach, Gilmore Park and Langley. He also arranged to a group of men from Queens Avenue United Church to visit South Burnaby AOTS club and it was very pleasing to have 18 men join in fellowship at the monthly dinner meeting at South Burnaby United Church.

DUNCAN AOTS REPORT

The club continues to be very active, with an average attendance of 50 at each meeting. Much of the success of the dinner meetings is due to the ladies of the UCW for their unfailing support in the provision of such excellent dinners.

In March 86 the club hosted the Junior Choir and their leader. This has become a very enjoyable annual event. Another highlight of this meeting was the presentation to Elsie Carter of an honorary life membership in the Duncan AOTS Club as a mark of esteem and of thanks for many years of cheerful help. (This presentation did not go unnoticed in the local press.)

In April, the club toured B.C. Telephone Co. facilities in Duncan. At the dinner meeting before the trip Gordon Miller gave an excellent devotional on the theme of communication. Financial support was voted to Cross Roads Africa and to the Geo. Pringle Camp.

On May 10, the 32nd annual Spring tea was held with nearly all club members helping. Thanks go to Stan Groves and Matt Moir for heading the committee. Also thanks to Mrs. N. Wingfield, UCW president, for her appropriate opening remarks. The event, which is meant to be a social event, realized a net profit of \$550.00.

Submitted: Don Morton

If we have overlooked your group, our apologies. Please

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION WITH AOTS

We were not trying to advertise Expo 86 but it was mentioned many times as Betty and I travelled throughout B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba to visit with about 20 AOTS clubs. Meeting old friends and making many new ones was indeed a pleasure and we were truly treated like royalty as we journeyed.

Rain and snow in B.C., through the Crowsnest Pass to spring weather in Calgary and Lethbridge and summer in Medicine Hat, Moose Jaw and Regina. After recovering from paying 31 cents per litre for gasoline, we journeyed on to Melville, Reston and Souris. We chartered a new club in Brandon, Manitoba. Winnipeg's weather was unusual. One day it was clear and hot (20°C) the next morning was cold (-13°C) and snow.

We returned to B.C. via the Yellowhead route and warm greetings made up for the vagaries of the weather.

We bring greetings from Moose Jaw (Bill & Laura Taylor), Winnipeg (Clare & Nina Bailey), Edmonton (Jim & Ida Dickie), & Lethbridge (Jim & Mary Rae & Gerry & Mim Hutchinson)

Ernie Stafford: Western Vice President AOTS (from Duncan United Church newsletter)

let us know when you meet, the contact person & 'phone no.

B. F. MEN'S CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 17, 18, 19, 1986

NATIONAL AOTS PRESIDENT
VISIT B.C. IN OCTOBER.

Theme:
"Where in the world is the
Church?"

Speaker:
Rev. Dr. Maurice Boyd
London, Ontario

"The finest preacher we have
in the United Church whose
special strength is warm
communication of the Grace
of God. He will stir the
conference deeply." (Rev.
Bob Mumford)

Your church office will have
registration forms or
contact Bill Cumming at
433-5106 (Burnaby).

Jack Arthur will be visiting
B.C. in early October. He
hopes to visit clubs in
Burnaby, Langley, Duncan,
Victoria, and with as many
other groups as can be
fitted into his schedule.
Exact dates have not yet
been confirmed, so further
details contact any of the
following:

Bill Cumming 433-5106
Ernie Stafford 746-4562
Roy Jones 384-4640
John Carswell 430-4616,

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We welcome written contributions and news
related to Men's Concerns and Activities
in the United Church of Canada and
Community.

Deadlines for submissions for next issue:
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Maywood Ave., Apt. 707, Burnaby, B.C., V5H
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