

~ ABOUT US ~

The congregation of Stockdale United Church can trace its history to 1872, to the old church on the hill. Stockdale United Church was first known as a Methodist Church. The Auxiliary of the Bay of Quinte Conference Branch of the Women's Missionary Society of The United Church of Canada was organized at Stockdale Methodist Church on May 2nd, 1905. After many years of planning, June, 1923 was the reconstruction of the church and building the present Stockdale United Church. The Ladies Aid served dinner in the shed that day and many can remember they cooked potatoes in a milk can by the use of a steam engine owned by the late John Thompson. Over 1000 persons were fed.

1925 the Methodist Church of Canada united with Presbyterian and Congregational churches in Canada, to form the United Church of Canada. Thus Stockdale became Stockdale United Church.

June 15th, 1942, a very happy event was celebrated when the mortgage of the Church was burned.

In 1956 the new kitchen was added at the cost of \$2,159.06.

In 1960 she lost her husband Bruce. In memory of him she put new chairs in the choir loft.

In 1961 Mrs. Jandrew was asked to look after the church. At that time, there was just a dusty cement floor in the basement. Mrs. Jandrew painted the floor several times to deaden the dust. Finally we got carpet to cover the whole basement floor.

In the Centennial year, 1967, our project was to have Mr. Bell and his men paint the interior of the auditorium. The ceiling was lowered and paneling was added on the south end of the choir loft. Irene Parks erected a huge cross over the choir loft in the south end in memory of her husband, Daniel Parks. A reunion was held and many people who at one time lived here or attended Stockdale Church were present.

In 1968, Zion United Church congregation joined with Stockdale United Church. The historic stone from Zion United Church, dated 1882, was placed in the entrance of our church.

The 50th anniversary of the United Church in 1975 was celebrated by Stockdale joining with Wooler in parade. Stockdale two floats - the young choir and the choir of yesterday.

In August 1975, the Church was updated in two stages. Two new furnaces were put in - one to heat the upstairs, and one to heat the downstairs as well as the decision to put in a new ceiling and panel the walls. This was an all-winter job with Suderman to do the work. Many volunteers turned out each day to assist where they could.

In March of 1976 family night was held with the choir as our guests. This was the first social event we had in the newly renovated hall.

Sunday June 21, 1998, the 75th Anniversary of the laying of the Corner Stone was celebrated.

Over the years, as well as general maintenance, several projects were undertaken:

- The church steeple was changed in 1986, at which time the bell was removed. It was later re-installed.
- Two stained glass windows were installed in memory of the Westlake family, the other in memory of Bill and Vera Pitcher.
- A large religious wood relief was commissioned by Harold Pitcher in memory of his wife Bernice.

-When Stockdale Road/County Road 5 corner was revamped, the basement along with the windows on the west side were filled in and the entrance was moved to the south side.

-New soffits and eaves were installed.

-Cushions were installed in the Church pews.

-Two new gas furnaces were installed in 2006.

We are a 'family' church with a rich heritage; a continuous ministry since 1923. Our wish for the future is to attract more families, specially youth and children, thus ensuring our existence into the next century.

With all of these changes and updates being made to Stockdale United Church over the past years it still has held strong and been a welcoming environment to past and present members. The doors are always open to new guests and their families and friends.