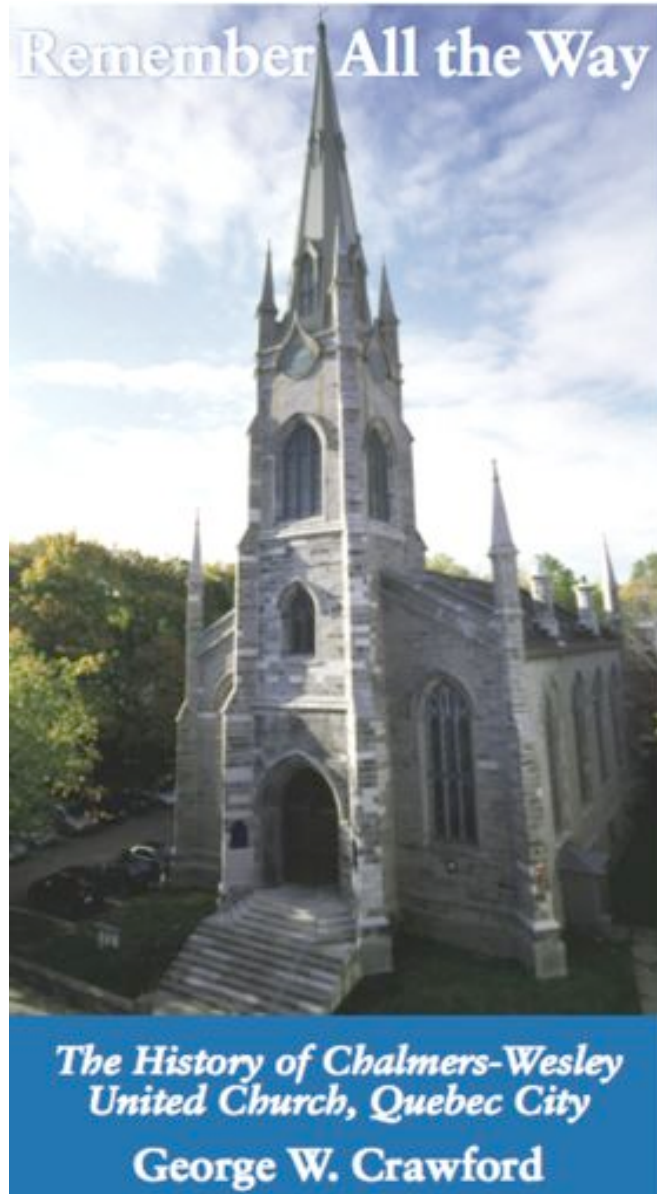


# *The Spire*



*Photo by Arthur Plumpton*

*News and Views of  
Chalmers-Wesley United Church*

*September to December 2008*

## THE SEARCH FOR OUR NEW MINISTER CONTINUES

The Joint Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) met in July and August with our Presbytery appointed supervisor, Rev. Debbie Poirier. Rev. Doug Stewart accompanied her at the first meeting. He is the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Minister for Personnel and Congregational Support (East). Sixteen members of Chalmers-Wesley as well as five from St. Andrew's United and Presbyterian churches in Valcartier were appointed by their congregations to work on this very important project.

The people representing our congregation are: Jacques Ayotte, Anna Baril, Myriam Cadoret, James Cameron, Eleanor Carruthers, Jenny Fleming, Bea Gaw, Alain Giasson, Sandra Holman (Co-Chair), Elizabeth Huse (Co-Chair), Grant McConnell, Shirley Nadeau (Secretary), Shirley Picknell, Ginette Senneville, Joan Shea and Joan Wheeler; Valcartier churches: (United) Eric Hicks, Anita Jack, Glen Montgomery; (Presbyterian) Susan McBain and Joanne McCalla.

The first task of the JNAC is to prepare six profiles of our congregation(s). Two summaries are requested: the Community and Resources Description and Ministry Personnel Description. Members of the JNAC may consult with other members of their congregation(s) to be sure we take into consideration everyone's opinion of what we are looking for in a minister.

Once the members of the JNAC have completed their work, a Joint Search Committee will be formed whose task it will be to advertise and seek out qualified candidates and eventually interview those deemed best suited to fulfil our needs. We are all so very encouraged at how quickly and enthusiastically the process is moving forward. We will keep you informed as things progress.

## *REMEMBER ALL THE WAY*

*The Spire* this month features the cover photo of our church history book, *Remember All the Way*, written by George W. Crawford, a former member of our congregation now living in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu. If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the book, please speak to Shirley Nadeau, editor of *The Spire*, after church any Sunday. The cost is \$30.

If you wish to have a copy of the book mailed to you, the additional cost is \$9.00 within Canada, \$12 to the US and \$16 overseas. Just write us a note requesting a book, including your cheque for the total amount and mail it to the church at 78 rue Ste-Ursule, Québec, QC, G1R 4E8. We will send your copy of the book by return mail as soon as possible. You may also obtain a copy from the church office during the week when the secretary is present, or from La Maison Anglais bookstore in Place de La Cité shopping centre on blvd. Laurier.

Sales of the books have been going well. La Maison Anglais recently ordered four more books as they had sold the first lot of 18 which they purchased from us. We sold six during the summer when the church was open to visitors. All profits from the sale of the book go towards the Building Restoration Fund, which includes the spire restoration project. IF you make a donation of \$100 or more to the Building Restoration Fund, we will send you a FREE book.

## **UP-DATE REPORT on the SPIRE RESTORATION and CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDS**

As they say, “there is never a dull moment.” I think that that could well refer to our final step in the restoration process of Chalmers-Wesley United Church with regard to our spire, or what one might more elegantly call the steeple or bell-tower, minus the bells (any donations?).

Our intention was to do the “job” this year, until it became evident that this was not going to happen for a number of reasons, the main one being that most construction companies in the business of restoring churches were still busy finishing last year’s (2007) projects and the rain, of course, had slowed everything down. There were still other reasons for postponement, but the final result was that only the preparatory work would be done in 2008.

Well, what did this mean? It meant that the architect was chosen, the plans prepared, the bidding process which was open this year (not subject to invitation) was undertaken, and a final budget figure determined. We are now in the final stages of this process. If we are lucky, some initial work can be done this fall.

As for the budget and the campaign, where are we at? Well, at this writing, we have raised somewhere between \$500,000 and \$600,000 in grants and donations from all sources. Details of these and up-dates appear regularly in the Sunday church bulletin. Although this is indeed a lot of money and certainly represents an initial success, we should not become complacent because estimated costs as well as the bids have been rising with time (first estimates came out in 2007 in the \$500,000 range), but today we are faced with the *quid pro quo* of dealing with costs in the \$700,000 to \$800,000 range. So we are now in the process of evaluating what we can expect our fund-raising campaign to bring in by 2009 and what we can handle in our share of the costs.

In the meantime, the Building Fund Raising Committee encourages all members and adherents of Chalmers-Wesley to make a donation in 2008 and in 2009, so that we as a congregation will once again successfully rise to the occasion and complete this restoration project that was begun in 1994.

Grant McConnell for the Spire Restoration Group

You may leave your donation in an envelope on the offering plate any Sunday morning or mail it in to the church office at 78 rue Ste-Ursule, Québec, QC G1R 4E8. Cheques should be made payable to the **Chalmers-Wesley Building Fund**. A receipt for income tax purposes will be sent to you at the end of the year, along with the total of your regular weekly or monthly offerings for the work of the church.

Thank you for caring for our church home.

Mike Ayre, Jacques Ayotte, David Baker, Grant McConnell and Shirley Nadeau,  
Members of the Building Fund Raising Committee

**A message from the Reverend Darla Sloan, newly appointed minister of our sister congregation, Église unie Saint-Pierre**

“To all the saints of Chalmers-Wesley United Church. Greetings to you in the name of Christ who unites us as one body and calls us to his service!

Another September. Students head back to class and another church year begins. Boy time flies! It seems like only yesterday I was writing to bid you farewell as I prepared to leave Québec City in order to begin my studies at United Theological College in Montreal. And today (a short 13 years later ☺ ) I am writing to greet you as I begin my first year of ministry with your sister congregations, Église-unie St-Pierre et Pinguet.

It has been wonderful for me to be back worshiping and working within these walls – the very place where my call to ministry was discerned and nurtured – and I thank those of you who have stopped by to welcome me and wish me well in my new ministry. I would also like to thank Shirley Normand and Michael Keane for “showing me the ropes” around the building and Alain LeBlond for “backing me up” and making me laugh on a regular basis. All these things make coming to work an even greater a joy.

And, on behalf of Église-unie Saint-Pierre, I would like to thank you for supporting Saint-Pierre’s decision to provide three meals to the participants of this year’s Vélotour. Special thanks goes to Jacques Ayotte who assured security and who organized tours of the church and parts of Old Québec for the 45 French and English-speaking cyclists from across M & O Conference of the United Church and the Église réformée de France. Our guests were touched by the warm welcome they received and I am pleased to be able to transmit their thanks to you. We could not have done it without you!

I give thanks to God for that event which marked the beginning of my ministry in Québec. It seems to me to be a wonderful example of how good things can happen when the various parts of the body of Christ work together to serve the needs of our brothers and sisters. Just because the parts are unique and distinct does not mean that they cannot work together. On the contrary...it means that together the body can be that much more diversified in its service. May this be but the first of many positive experiences for both congregations of the United Church in this place during my ministry here.

To that end, please know that, if I can be of service to you, my door is always open.

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole*

*body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body.*

(1 Corinthians 12: 12-20)

I also wanted to inform the people of Chalmers-Wesley that they are cordially invited to attend my **Covenanting Service** which will take place on **Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am** (St-Pierre's regular worship time). The service will be led by Rev. Thierry Delay, chair of the Consistoire Laurentien.

Your daughter in Christ,  
Darla Sloan

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Saturday, September 20 - St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Valcartier is holding its annual **TURKEY SUPPER** at the Community Centre, 1743 blvd Valcartier, from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Adults \$10, Children 6-12 \$5, under 6 - Free.

Sunday, September 21, **POT LUCK LUNCH** at Chalmers-Wesley, following the worship service.

Please bring something to contribute to the meal and a friend or two! You may be contacted by a member of the congregation to remind you of this event and to help coordinate the meal.

Thursday, September 25, 7:00pm, the Chalmers-Wesley **WOMEN'S GROUP** will meet at the church. Tea, cookies, fun and fellowship. Please come and bring a friend.

### **IN MEMORY OF Anne (de Pauw) Stailing**

Anne was a former member of Chalmers-Wesley who more recently lived in Halifax. While she lived in Quebec she was very involved in the life of our church. She was the manager of the Birks store at Place Ste-Foy. Her daughter Ingrid was in charge of the nursery for several years.

(From the Halifax-Chronicle Herald)

STAILING, Anne - Died peacefully July 29, 2008, at the age of 82, surrounded by the love of her family. She was the loving wife of Robert L. Stailing, Halifax; dear mother to Ingrid de Pauw and mother-in-law to Pierre Sauve, Kingston, and loving grandmother to Sarah, Vincent, Corrine, Zacharie and Sebastien. She also leaves behind Barbara, Bruce (Valeria) and John, all of Halifax; Elizabeth (Denis), Ottawa, and their children, Robin, Brent, Claire and Adam. Before Anne's illness, she was an active member of First Baptist Church and the Women's Rotary Club, and a volunteer at Pier 21. She enjoyed travelling, gardening, playing cards, and spending time laughing with family and friends. We are grateful to the QEII palliative care staff, the Annapolis Valley palliative care staff and VON who provided guidance and comfort to Anne during her illness. A memorial service was held on August 1st in First Baptist Church, Halifax.

Lois Aroian, a former member of our congregation, who was here on two occasions in May and June to lead us in worship, sent the following message regarding her mother.

Dear Friends,

This is just to let you know that Armine Aroian, beloved mother of Lois and Julie, grandmother of Bel and Toby Carpenter, and great grandmother of Julianna Armine and Soren Carpenter, who during her long life touched the lives of so many in service to others, passed on to glory last night, July 14, at age 99 and 7 months. She donated her body to GWU Hospital.

Joyful services of thanksgiving for her life were held on Saturday, August 16 at Fairfax Presbyterian Church on Main Street in Fairfax, VA and on Sunday, August 17 at Union Presbyterian Church on Park Avenue in Schenectady, NY.

In lieu of flowers, we would welcome memorial contributions to mission projects at one of these two churches, to the Leo A. Aroian Fellowship at Union College in Schenectady, NY, or if in Canada, to the Chalmers-Wesley United Church Spire Fund.

We appreciate your prayers. Lois

In Memory of

**Arminé Grace Dingilian Aroian**

December 9, 1908 - July 14, 2008

I am the resurrection and the life; those who believe in me, though they die, yet shall they live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.

John 11: 25-26



**Arminé's favorite inspirational passages:**

Keep love in the heart and hate out.  
Worry never.            God cares and is alive.  
Live simply.            Deal justly.  
Work happily.        Speak kindly.  
Pray expectantly.    Give heartily.  
Serve sincerely.      Trust restfully.

Let my love surround you like sunlight, and yet  
give you illumined freedom.  
- Rabindranath Tagore

Lord make me an instrument of Thy peace.  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, life.  
Where there is sadness joy.  
- St. Francis of Assisi

**Arminé Aroian** was born in Bursa (now Turkey) in 1908. Her grandfather was a Congregationalist minister, and she attended an American school. When she was six, at the outset of the Armenian Genocide of 1915, her father was taken to concentration camp and soon killed. Arminé came to the U.S. with family survivors in 1923. Graduating from high school in New York in 1926, she won the top prizes in mathematics, French, and history as well as one of two High Record Scholarships awarded to graduates. She graduated with honours from Hunter College, majoring in French and Spanish. In her sophomore year, Hunter appointed her head of the newly-created Judicial Honour Board. In 1930, her graduating class of 980 students voted her the most popular student. She won the first Hattie Cohen Award for Charm of Personality, Broad Culture and Strength of Character. News of the award and her photograph appeared in newspapers throughout the U.S. She stayed at Hunter as an advisor in the office of student affairs.

In 1941, Arminé married math professor Leo Aroian. They moved to Los Angeles (Westchester) in 1950 with daughters Juliet and Lois. Arminé co-founded the Community Concerts in Westchester and served on its board for years. She participated in charitable activities for the Westchester Women's Club and the Armenian Allied Arts. A deacon at Covenant Presbyterian Church, she supported many mission projects and sang in the choir. In the Occidental College Women's Club, she directed arts and crafts projects. She was renowned for her cooking and tailoring, her skill at bridge, her mastery of Scrabble and word puzzles, her love of opera and other classical music, her organizational talent, and her ability to repair anything.

The Aroians moved in 1968 to Schenectady, New York where Leo Aroian taught at Union College. During her 38 years there, Arminé welcomed students into her home. She sold her own crafts at her Christmas bazaar, donating 100% of the proceeds. She sang in the choir and was active in Union Presbyterian Church. She served as a Red Cross volunteer at blood banks, both in Los Angeles and in Schenectady, for many years.

When Union College announced the establishment of the Leo A. Aroian Research Fellowship, Arminé asked family and friends to endow it in honour of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. She donated her family home and gave other funds. The Graduate College at Union honoured Arminé at its commencement in 2006.

Arminé returned to her birthplace three times: twice with her husband Leo and once with daughter Juliet Carpenter. She traveled to Europe, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Africa, Canada and Mexico. A lifelong humanitarian, Arminé became active on behalf of Palestinian human rights in her 60s. She moved to Fairfax, Virginia in 2006 to live with daughter Lois. Until her death, she sold her handmade paper bead necklaces to benefit mission projects at Fairfax Presbyterian Church.



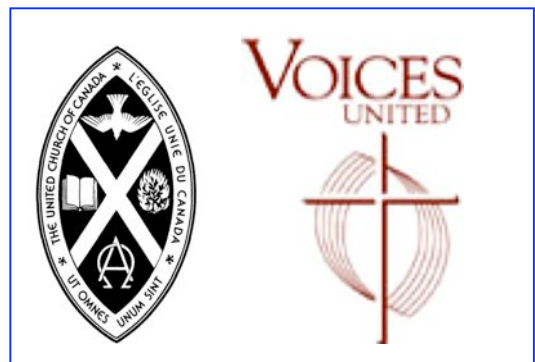
**FISH** – The fish is a very early Christian symbol. The fish is an acrostic. Each letter in the Greek word for fish – **ichthus** - represents another word. Ichthus is one of the first Christian creeds: **I** - (Iasous) - **Jesus**, (**ch**) - (Christos) - **Christ**, (**th**) - (Theos) - **God's**, (**u**) - (Uios) - **Son**, **s** - (Sotar) - **Savior**

The symbol of the fish was used to show the initiated few that you were a Christian. If you walked past the home of a non-Christian and saw a drawing of a fish outside the door, it meant a funeral would happen that day. However, if the house were the home of a Christian, it meant a Bible study would take place there that evening.

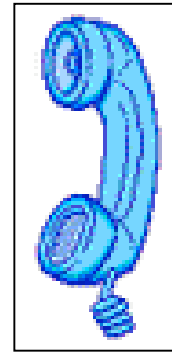
It was also used in speech. If I met you in the marketplace and I thought you were a Christian I would say, "Ichthus?" If you were a non-Christian, you would point me in the direction of the local fish market. If you were a Christian, you would respond "Ichthus!" We were then safe to discuss Christian matters.

The symbol of the fish can also be seen in the shape of the crest of The United Church of Canada and on the cover of our hymn book, *Voices United*.

The imprint on the cover of the hymn book also resembles the sail of a ship and the cross pieces of the mast look like the nails which held Jesus on the cross.



**NUMBER PLEASE?**



**CHURCH OFFICE**            **418 - 692-2640**  
Fax                            418 - 692-2481  
Kitchen                      418 - 692-0431

The church secretary, **Shirley Normand**, is available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 8:30am to 11:30 am but you may leave a message at any time.

**E-mail address:**        [chalmers-wesley@qc.aira.com](mailto:chalmers-wesley@qc.aira.com)  
**Web Site**                [www.chalmerswesley.org](http://www.chalmerswesley.org)

**MINISTER** (We are currently searching for a new minister.)

CHAIR of the OFFICIAL BOARD - Anna Baril	<a href="mailto:ajbaril@sympatico.ca">ajbaril@sympatico.ca</a>	(418) - 627-0937
CLERK OF SESSION and Envelope Steward	- Joan Shea	651-3647
<i>The Spire</i> Editor	- Shirley Nadeau <a href="mailto:cashnadeau@videotron.ca">cashnadeau@videotron.ca</a>	649-5394
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MUSIC DIRECTOR	- Alain LeBlond <a href="mailto:aleblond@lascauxx.com">aleblond@lascauxx.com</a>	683-9194
CHURCH OFFICER	- Michael Keane	692-2640
(Hours - Monday - Friday, 8:00am – 11:00am and Sunday morning)	or	692-0431 (kitchen)

Church mailing address:    Chalmers-Wesley United Church  
78 rue Ste-Ursule, Quebec, QC    G1R 4E8

United Church Web Sites: United Church of Canada - [www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)  
Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery - <http://qspres.org/news.php>

Église unie Saint-Pierre et Pinguet – Culte en français dimanche à 9h15  
e-mail: [eustpierre.qc.aira.com](mailto:eustpierre.qc.aira.com)    site web:

- Pasteure Darla Sloan	bureau de l'église	692-3422
	ou à la maison	688-8958

### SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS

Until further notice, our Sunday worship services will continue to start at 11:00am.

- Sunday, September 21 - POT LUCK LUNCH following the worship service
- Thursday, September 25 - Women's Group Meeting at 7:00pm
- Sunday, October 12 - THANKSGIVING SUNDAY - 11:00am  
- Covenanting Service for the Reverend Darla Sloan during  
Église Unie Saint-Pierre's worship service starting at **9:15am**
- Thursday, October 30 - Women's Group Meeting at 7:00pm
- Sunday, November 9 - Remembrance Day Service
- Tuesday, November 11 - Tuesday, Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Cenotaph  
on Grande-Allée at 10:30am
- Thursday, November 27 - Women's Group Meeting at 7:00pm
- Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday of Advent  
- Sing-Along Messiah - 7:00pm (date to be confirmed)
- Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Service (details to be confirmed)

At the time of printing this issue, WORSHIP LEADERS for each Sunday service from October to the end of December were yet to be confirmed. This information will be posted weekly on our electronic *News from the Pews* which is connected to the church web site. If you do not currently receive *News from the Pews* and would like to do so, please send an e-mail message to the church office at [chalmers-wesley@qc.aira.com](mailto:chalmers-wesley@qc.aira.com) You may see *News from the Pews* and *The Spire* on the church web site at [www.chalmerswesley.org](http://www.chalmerswesley.org) at any time.

If you have any news or would like to contribute an article that you feel would be of interest to our readers, please contact the editor Shirley Nadeau at 649-5394 or [cashnadeau@videotron.ca](mailto:cashnadeau@videotron.ca) and she will be happy to consider including it in the next issue. The editor reserves the right to edit your text to fit the available space.

