

FORT MASSEY CHURCH

Halifax, Nova Scotia

1871 - 1971

A Century of Witness



D. M. SINCLAIR



Prefatory Note

The year 1971 marks the 100th anniversary of Fort Massey Church, erected on the site of an old fort, which was demolished in 1816. During that century many changes have taken place in Halifax, and Fort Massey Church has had a worthy share in many of them.

This brief history, which has been prepared to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the congregation, is based chiefly on an historical sketch written by Dr. John Forrest in 1911 and brought up to date by Dr. J. W. Falconer in 1946. Considerable material has been secured from the Session records and from the minutes of the Board of Managers, from "The Presbyterian Witness", and especially from Mr. Arthur S. Barnstead who was associated with this church during his long life-time.

Thanks are due to Dr. E. Arthur Betts, Conference Archivist; to Mr. J. A. Bowman, and to Dr. John B. Hardie for reading the manuscript and giving valuable suggestions. Any flagrant omissions or errors brought to the attention of the writer, will be appreciated.

D. M. Sinclair

Foreword

This book is concerned with the story of the beginnings, and the witness of the congregation of what is now Fort Massey United Church.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that we have as our historian, Rev. Donald M. Sinclair, C.D., M.A., DD., who was minister in Fort Massey from 1948-1969. Dr. Sinclair has a large knowledge of the people and the work of this congregation. He is now retired, living in Halifax, and is a member of the Session over which he presided for a long time. In addition to his own experiences here, he was a personal friend of a number of those who preceded him, and has become a close friend and source of support to his successor.

Dr. Sinclair has studied the records of the congregation and has gathered information from many sources. I believe that he had rendered signal service to Fort Massey Church in producing this book and sharing with us the story of this congregation at worship and at work over the past one hundred years. On behalf of the Session and congregation I wish to extend to Dr. Sinclair a most sincere word of appreciation for the fine contribution he has made to Fort Massey.

Today we are grateful for many things in our past history. Now we stand on the threshold of a new era, and we approach it with a sense of deep humility, beseeching God, and calling on our people to bring great things out of troublous times. Our fathers laboured faithfully, and gave of their time, substance and talent, that Christ's work might prosper in this place. Now we live in a fast changing world. We are all challenged to be open to the needs of our day, and to live the Gospel among our fellows, for surely Christ confronts us now and asks again, "Quo Vadis?" "Where Are You Going?" That will depend on our faith and the faith of others. Let us go forth with our trust in God who is our Hope.

S. G. MacQueen

October 21st, 1971

CONTENTS

	Page
Prefatory Note	iii
Foreword	iv
Origins	
The name "Fort Massey"	1
Church Street Sunday School	2
Poplar Grove Church	2
Chalmers Church	2
Preliminary Plans	
Laying of Corner Stone, June 25, 1870	3
Organization of Congregation	
Dedication and Opening, December 10, 1871	4
The first Communion Roll	4
The Church Building	
Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D. 1872-1874	6
Rev. Robert Ferrier Burns, D.D. 1875-1892	6
Rev. Alfred Gandier, D.D. 1893-1900	9
Church Hall, 1898	9
Rev. James W. Falconer, D.D. 1902-1907	11
Rev. Roger William Ross, D.D. 1908-1926	12
40th Anniversary Services	12
Dedication War Memorial Window	13
Church Union, 1925	14
Rev. John Mutch, D.D. 1927-1932	14
Diamond Jubilee Services	14
Rev. J. Norrie Anderson, M.A. 1933-1940	18
Rev. Gerald F. Rogers, D.D. 1941-1947	19
World War II	19
75th Anniversary Services, 1946	19
Rev. Donald M. Sinclair, D.D. 1948-1969	20
Church interior renovated, 1951	20
Rev. Stanley G. MacQueen, B.A. 1970-	22
Our Women' s Work	
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	22
The Ladies Association	24
The Currie Auxiliary	24
The Janet Oxley Group	24
The United Church Women	24
Christian Education	
Christian Endeavour Society	24
Young People's Society	24
Chinese Sunday School	25
Canadian Girls in Training	25
Tuxis and Trail Rangers	25
18th Troop Boy Scouts	25

18th Wolf Cub Pack	25
A Century of Witness	26

APPENDICES

	Page
Ministers of Fort Massey	28
Members of Session	28
Clerks of Session	29
Superintendents of the Sunday School	30
Secretary-Treasurers of the Congregation	30
Missionary Treasurers	31
Organists	31
Presidents of The United Church Women	31
Presidents of The United Church Men	31
Scoutmasters - 18th Boy Scout Troop	32
Cubmasters 18th Cub Pack	32
King's Scouts	32
Queen's Scouts	33
Memorial Tablets	33
Memorial Windows	35
Gifts and Memorials not included in Windows and Tablets	36

Origins

The Name “Fort Massey”

Fort Massey Church is unique in its name. No other church can boast such. While there are countless churches called after the saints of all the ages, there's only one Fort Massey. The origin of the name is not far to seek.

Between the years 1776 and 1778 a fort, 115 feet above sea level, was erected on what was then known as Windmill Hill, at the intersection of the present Queen and South Streets.⁽¹⁾ The commanding officer of the Halifax fortifications at the time was General Eyre Massey, afterwards Baron Clarina, an Irish peer. The fort was named after him.⁽²⁾

The barracks and guardhouse were demolished in 1815 and fifty-six years later (1871) Fort Massey Church was erected on the site of the old fort. Commenting on the transformation, Dr. J. W. Falconer wrote: “Nor is it an unhappy circumstance that a Fort should give place to a House of Worship, indeed it was rather an improvement and it might do us good if more forts were converted into churches.”⁽³⁾

The population of Halifax in 1861, which was given as 25,126, was centered between South and Gerrish Streets and the Citadel Hill. From South to Inglis, and from the harbour to the Arm, the whole area was practically fields and farms, and had not been laid out for building purposes. At that time, there were four Presbyterian Churches in the city — St. Matthew's and St. Andrew's in connection with the Church of Scotland, and Chalmers and Poplar Grove connected with the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces. The opening up of a large district in the South End of the city led to the building of many residences on Pleasant Street, Victoria Road and Inglis Street. This trend was noted by two of the Presbyterian Churches — Poplar Grove and Chalmers — and at a meeting of representatives from both churches, held in Chalmers vestry, it was decided to open a Sunday school on Church Street. It was not long before there was a school of 80 pupils and 15 teachers, under the superintendency of Mr. W. H. Waddell.⁽⁴⁾

The success of this venture in 1868 demonstrated the need for a church in the South End. This decision was justified when in later years Poplar Grove and Chalmers found it necessary to unite with

(1) The fort is thus described by Phyllis R. Blakeley in “The Evolution of the Halifax Fortress 1749-1928”, The Public Archives of Nova Scotia, Publication No. 7, Page 18: “The purpose of Fort Massey was to command the dangerous deep hollow formed by Freshwater Brook, in which an attacking force might find shelter out of reach of the Citadel's guns. The fort was enlarged in the spring of 1872. It was then 320 feet long and 170 feet in greatest width, lying in a northwest and southeast position, and consisted of two semi-circular works, one at each end, connected by an obtuse redan on each side, all of earth and fascines, with a ditch and bridge. In the southeast circular end was an octagonal blockhouse or keep resembling the larger one at the Citadel, and capable of accommodating thirty men. There was also accommodation for 100 men (two companies) in two or three barrack buildings. Ten 24-pounders, three 12-pounders, and four small brass mortars were mounted in the work. Some of the guns were in the south west redan, and six in the southeast circular part.”

(2) General Massey was second in command to Jeffrey Amherst, the British Commander-in-Chief, at the capture of Montreal in 1760, and in 1763 was in charge at Quebec.

(3) Dr. Falconer concludes: “As becomes a Fort, this one was placed on a hill. There is but one approach by which it can be taken on the level, that is by the northern part of Queen Street. If one comes by South Street - East or West - or by Tobin Street, or by South Queen Street, he must be ready for a steep climb. This feature is increasingly recognized by Pilgrims on their Sabbath ascent; and as age comes on, the incline seems to grow steeper every year. There is small consolation in recalling the fact that the people of Israel had to go up to Jerusalem for worship - to lift their eyes unto the hills.”

(4) At the Annual Congregational Meeting in 1919 Dr. Falconer read from a report prepared by Mr. Waddell regarding the establishment of the church: “The first step was the establishment of a Sunday School in a central locality. The school building in Church Street owned by Mr. Waddell was placed at their disposal and Mr. Waddell was asked to undertake the superintendence of the school. It was known as the Fort Massey District Sunday School and remained in existence till Fort Massey Church was opened. From memory Mr. Waddell recalled the staff as follows: Mr. Waddell, Supt.; Messers. William Robertson, Alexander Stephen, William Murray (lost in the “City of Boston” 1870); Samuel Tupper, Archibald Patterson, Robert R. Boak, Hugh MacDonald Scott (later Dr. Scott of Chicago); Mrs. Peter Ross, Mrs. J. S. MacLean, Mrs. A. Patterson, Miss Kate Stairs, Miss Annie Stephens, Miss Graham.”

other churches because of the shift of population from their immediate neighbourhood; Poplar Grove moving to North Park Street Church and Chalmers to what later became St. Andrew's on Coburg Road.

Poplar Grove Church

This congregation was organized in 1843 with the Rev. P. G. MacGregor⁽¹⁾ as minister. He was inducted on October 27, 1843 “in the old Baptist Church, north end of Barrington Street”⁽²⁾ which at that time ended at Buckingham Street. The Poplar Grove Church building located on Starr Street was opened in January 1845, with Rev. Mr. Campbell of Sherbrooke conducting the service. “It would appear that the Church came into being primarily as an enterprise of people who went out from St. Matthew's and St. Andrew's for the purpose of forming another Presbyterian congregation in the North End of the city” (when he was succeeded by Rev. Allan Simpson. Closing services were held on October 26, 1884. Dr. Sedgwick preached in the morning. At an afternoon meeting addresses were made by Messers. S. Waddell, Hill, D. Blackwood, Charles Robson and J. S. MacLean. In the evening Dr. MacGregor gave a history of Poplar Grove Church. During the forty years of its existence every Presbyterian Church in the city had been built or rebuilt. Poplar Grove congregation met for the first time in their new church on Park Street on November 2, 1884.

Chalmers Church

This church, situated on Barrington Street, near Lockman, was an offshoot of St. John's on Gerrish Street. The building, erected in 1855, later became the Gaiety Theatre. The minister in 1871 was Rev. C. B. Pitblado. As it was in the midst of the business part of the city, it was said of it “Chalmers attacks the devil where he no doubt has the strongest hold.” No sinister significance is attached to the fact that it was after the discontinuance of the Gaelic prayer meetings in 1877, the steeple was struck by lightning and replaced by a low squat tower. When Rev. Dr. John MacMillan retired as minister of Chalmers, the building was sold and then a me “Chalmers” adopted by the Presbyterian Church on Coburg Road.⁽⁴⁾ congregation of St. Andrew's on Tobin Street⁽⁵⁾ joined with Chalmers and the name chosen was “St. Andrew's.”⁽⁶⁾ The closing of Chalmers on Barrington Street in 1906 brought accessions to the membership of Fort Massey.

Preliminary Plans for a New Church

The success of the Church Street Sunday School was such that on December 2, 1869, a meeting was held of members of Chalmers and Poplar Grove, with 23 present, when it was decided to petition Presbytery, asking that Fort Massey be set up as a separate charge.

(1) Peter Gordon MacGregor, a son of Rev. Dr. James MacGregor, was born in Pictou in 1817. Ordained in 1841, he served for a short time in Guysborough. In 1886 he became Agent of the Church and in 1868 gave up his charge to his assistant, Rev. Allan Simpson, in order to give his whole time to the Synod's work. Dr. MacGregor was Moderator of the Synod of the Lower Provinces when in 1875 four branches of the Presbyterian Church united to form the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

(2) R. M. Hattie, "Old Halifax Churches", page 78.

(3) Ibid. Page 67

(4) Chalmers and Fort Massey purchased the Methodist Mission Hall on Coburg Road when the Methodists erected Robie Street Church in 1894. In this hall a Presbyterian Sunday School and Church services were conducted by students from Pine Hill College.

(5) This church is described as “a handsome and striking wooden building, a combination of Gothic and early English, with a tapering spire containing the most sonorous bells in the city. Visitors always admired the charming picture produced by the stained glass windows, the lofty oak panelled roof, handsome choir screen, the decorated wheel window in the gallery, and the richly carved walnut pulpit, said to be the finest piece of carved church work in the Lower Provinces. This building, much remodelled, has become the C.H.N.S. Broadcasting Station.” Phyllis R. Blakeley, “Glimpses of Halifax 1867-1900”, page 96.

(6) On Feb. 4, 1904, a delegation from Chalmers on Coburg Road met with the members of Session and Board of Trustees of St. Andrew's to consider the question of the two churches amalgamating, but no definite action was taken. Thirteen years later, in 1917, the two congregations were united, with the Rev. Donald MacOdrum as minister.

At the same time as these plans were being considered, it should be noted that St. Andrew's Church, corner of Barrington and Prince Streets, and in connection with the Church of Scotland, was contemplating a move to the South End. This Church building has been described as “a dilapidated old church and congregation of only 105 members.”⁽¹⁾ Accordingly, on December 8, 1869,⁽²⁾ at a special congregational meeting, it was decided to buy a lot of land on Tobin Street owned by Robert Morrow, for £850, to sell the old building and procure subscriptions for a new building.⁽³⁾ The new church on Tobin Street was formally opened for Divine service on May 21, 1871, with the Rev. John Campbell as minister⁽⁴⁾ – six months before Fort Massey was dedicated. It would seem that the spirit of rivalry and competition was still abundantly evident between the Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces in Halifax.

Laying the Corner Stone

The “Presbyterian Witness” of June 25, 1870, recorded that on Thursday, the 23rd of June, at four o'clock in the afternoon, a large number of people from Chalmers and Poplar Grove Churches assembled at the corner of Queen and Tobin Streets to witness the laying of the corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church. Taking part in the service were Rev. Allan Simpson,⁽⁵⁾ Rev. John Forrest,⁽⁶⁾ and Rev. P. G. MacGregor who gave an appropriate address. Mr. William Garvie⁽⁷⁾ read the scroll that was to be laid in the cavity of the stone. Hon William J. Stairs⁽⁸⁾ pronounced the stone "well and truly laid". The concluding prayer was offered by Rev. Edward Annand and the gathering joined in singing the Doxology.

Organization

A petition to organize the congregation was presented to a meeting of Presbytery in Lawrencetown on October 17, 1871, and at a later meeting in Chalmers Church on November 2. Presbytery granted

(1) Rev. Alexander MacLean, D.D., “The Story of the Kirk in Nova Scotia”, page 15.

(2) This was six days after the Poplar Grove and Chalmers Churches decided to petition Presbytery for a new Church in the South End.

(3) “Historical Sketch of St. Andrew’s Church, Halifax, N.S.” page 49.

(4) Educated Glasgow University; ordained 1868; called to St. Andrew’s, Halifax, in 1869, which position he held until his retirement in 1875, when he went to Edinburgh, where he died in 1899.

(5) Born Cavendish, P.E.I., educated Truro Seminary and Halifax Theological School; ordained 1866; minister of Poplar Grove Church.

(6) John Forrest was born in New Glasgow, N.S. in 1842; ordained in 1866, he was called to St. John’s Church, Halifax, where he ministered till 1881 when he was appointed Professor of History at Dalhousie College. In 1885 he was appointed President of Dalhousie, which office he held till 1911. Dr. Forrest was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1910. He died in 1920. Dr. Forrest was a member of the Kirk Session for 36 years and “exemplary in his attendance at the public worship of God.”

(7) Hon. William Garvie, a charter member of Fort Massey, has been described as “one of the most brilliant orators and finished scholars (yet) associated with our Provincial history.” Mr. Garvie came to Halifax in 1855. He taught school and later practised journalism and law. He was elected M.L.A. for Halifax in 1871 and appointed Commissioner of Works and Mines. He died in 1872 at the age of 38.

(8) The Stairs family has been closely associated with Fort Massey since its very beginning in 1870. Hon. William J. Stairs was “a man of intelligence, prudence, sagacity, business tact and strict integrity.” He was head of Stairs, Son and Morrow, one of the founders of the Union Bank and for years its President. He died Feb. 27, 1906, at the age of 87. His son, John F. Stairs, M.P., an elder and Sunday School Superintendent, died Sept. 26, 1904, at the age of 56. As a young man, Max Aitken, later Lord Beaverbrook, attended Fort Massey Church. He had formed a firm friendship with Mr. John F. Stairs whom he describes as “one of the best and most brilliant financiers taking part in the rising fortunes of Halifax.” It was there at the home at 170 South Street that young Aitken first saw the “charm and poise of gracious living.” He was later associated with Mr. Stairs in the Royal Securities Corporation.

the petition and appointed Rev. Professor John Currie,⁽¹⁾ with Rev. P.G. MacGregor and Messers. Alexander James, James W. Flemming and Robert Murray as an interim Session to take charge of organizing the congregation. This Session met for the first time in the basement of Poplar Grove Church on November 30, 1871, with Dr. Currie as interim Moderator. The second Sunday in December was appointed for the opening of the new church, and arrangements were made for the services of the day. Chalmers Church was asked to dispense with the, forenoon service and Poplar Grove with the evening service on that day. A prayer meeting was held in Fort Massey on the Wednesday evening prior to the official opening. Professor Currie presided and the people of Chalmers and Poplar Grove were invited to take part in the meeting.

On the evening prior to the opening of Fort Massey, a social and farewell prayer meeting was held in Poplar Grove Church. The Sunday School Superintendent, Mr. John S. MacLean,⁽²⁾ was presented with a copy of Smith's "Bible Dictionary." Mr. David Blackwood was presented with a clock,⁽³⁾ and a gold pen and pencil case by the young men and women of his Bible Class. A few days later Mr. Donald Fraser, senior ruling elder, was presented with the "Life and Works of Dr. James Hamilton", and the first Sunday School Superintendent of Fort Massey, Mr. W. H. Waddell, was presented with a davenport desk of polished walnut.

December 10, 1871

Fort Massey Church was dedicated and opened for Divine worship on December 10, 1871. Rev. J. Edward Annand⁽⁴⁾ of Chalmers Church preached in the morning from the words: "Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit, saith the Lord." In the afternoon, Dr. Currie took as his text: "Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone." In the evening Rev. Allan Simpson spoke on: "Ye also as living stones are built into a spiritual house."

On the following Wednesday evening, the ordinary weekly prayer meeting commenced. On Sunday, December 17th, Rev. A. J. Mowatt⁽⁵⁾ preached morning and evening. In the afternoon, the Sunday School was opened with a good attendance. At the close of the succeeding prayer meeting the congregation was organized according to the rules of the Church with a Communion Roll of some 90 members, fifty or more of whom had transferred from Poplar Grove Church.

The names on the first Communion Roll were:— John S. MacLean, John Watson, David Blackwood, Archibald Patterson, William Johnstone, Mrs. W. L. Murrison, Miss Charlotte Murrison, Miss Margaret Murrison, Peter Ross, Mrs. Peter Ross, Samuel Brown, Mrs. Samuel Brown, Mrs. Brown, Miss MacPhee, Andrew Muir, Agnes G. Muir, William Muir, Euphemia B. Muir, Alexander Stephen, Mrs. Alexander Stephen, Annie Stephen, Mrs. Sydenham Howe, Mrs. William Murray, John

(1) Rev. John D. Currie, D.D. After serving 14 years as minister of Maitland congregation, Dr Currie was chosen by the Synod as Professor of Hebrew at the Presbyterian College, Halifax. He demitted his congregation on July 25, 1871, and moved to Halifax where he lost no time in identifying with church life there. Within a few weeks after his arrival, he was actively associated with the plans to organize a new Presbyterian congregation in the South End of the city. He played a prominent part in the early beginnings of Fort Massey, and served as an Elder for 38 years until his death in 1909 at the age of 82. An active churchman, he was a leader in Presbytery and Synod meetings. In his report to Synod in 1875, he wrote: "I preached seventy times during the twelve months." It was said of him: "He was unceasing in his industry, gentle in all his ways, and much beloved by members of the Halifax churches." A lovely window depicting the Good Shepherd was erected to his memory in Fort Massey. The inscription reads: "To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Rev. John Currie, D.D., who organized this congregation in 1871, and was thereafter a faithful elder for 38 years. Born 1828. Died 1909."

(2) For many years Superintendent of the Sunday School. A prominent merchant. He was President of the Bank of Nova Scotia, of the Y.M.C.A., and was in "the forefront of religious and charitable activities in the city". He died in 1889 in his 61st year.

(3) This clock is in the church study. The inscription reads: "Presented to David Blackwood, Esq., by the Poplar Grove Presbyterian Church, Halifax, N.S. as a mark of esteem and appreciation of his services as Secretary and Treasurer of the Congregation. From June 1868 to November 1871."

(4) Brother of Rev. Joseph Annand, missionary to the New Hebrides.

(5) Born Woodstock, N.B.; ordained 1866; Minister Sharon Church, Albion Mines; now Stellarton, N.S.; 1866-1873.

C. Mackintosh, Mrs. J. C. Mackintosh, Mrs. John Grant, Margaret Grant, Alicia Grant, Mrs. William Annand, Elizabeth Creelman, Robert Boak Jr., Mrs. Robert Boak, Robert B. Boak, Catherine Anderson, Mrs. John Kelly, Mrs. James Thompson, George Thompson, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. John Grant, Mrs. James Gass, Mrs. A . Patterson, Samuel Tupper, Mrs. S . Tupper, James George Thompson, James Fraser, Mrs. James Fraser, William Fraser, Mrs. William Fraser, George C. Whidden, Mrs. George C. Whidden, Emma Whidden, William Robertson, James Watson, Mrs. John Watson, Christina Watson, W. S. Stirling, Lillie Stirling, W. J. Stairs, Mrs. W. J. Stairs, Mary Ann Stairs, Maggie Stairs, John D. Macintosh, Mrs. John D. Macintosh, William Garvie, Mrs. John Garvie, James Hutton, Mrs. James Hutton, James Hutton Jr., George Buist, James Gordon, Mrs. Robert Romans, Alice Romans, Annie Romans, Ada Romans, Maude Romans, E. M. MacDonald, Mrs. E. M. MacDonald, Jane MacDonald, Mrs. Fletcher, Donald Grant, Mrs. Donald Grant, Eleanor Grant, Nancy Jane Grant, Janet Grant, Mrs. Joseph Seaton, Mrs. R. Douglas Clarke, Mrs. MacLean, Mrs. John S. MacLean, Alexander Stephen Jr.

The Church Building

The contract for the new church was given to Mr. John Brookfield. The total cost was \$42,000 of which \$17,000 had been subscribed at the start.⁽¹⁾ The site had been secured at a cost of \$4,380 and an Act of Incorporation was passed by the Legislature.⁽²⁾ The Architect, Mr. David Stirling, made skillful use of a Gothic design in his plan.⁽³⁾ There were two aisles, inside the row of pillars. There was no centre aisle, although there were two large centre doors that were not used. The pulpit was centered on a low platform in front of the apse.⁽⁴⁾ The church was heated by two hot air furnaces in the basement. Wood was first used as fuel, then later, coal. Where the kitchen now is, was the Sunday School library. The lighting of the church was by gas jets fed by long pipes above the arches!⁽⁵⁾ Up until April, 1881, the offerings were received at the door. At that time, ladles were introduced and an immediate increase in givings was noted.

(1) "The stained glass windows, open timbered roof, fine carvings and elegant structure testified that Fort Massey was owned by one of the wealthiest congregations in the city. Fort Massey was considered one of the most handsome examples of Gothic architecture in the Dominion and reflects infinite credit on the architects, Stirling and Dewar." Phyllis R. Blakeley; "Glimpses of Halifax 1867-1900", page 96.

(2) Trustees named in the Act of Incorporation, April 4, 1871, were Robert Boak Jr., William J. Stairs, Peter Ross, and John S. MacLean. It should be noted that Fort Massey Cemetery, which dates back possibly to 1776 had no connection with Fort Massey Church. Dr. Akins in his "History of Halifax", page 183, notes that in 1818 "Queen Street led up to Fort Massey military burying ground; it was covered with grass and seldom used except for military funerals." This cemetery was reserved for military burials, and was transferred to the care of the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1943.

(3) "Externally and internally it is a well designed and elaborately finished Gothic structure, creditable to the public spirit, energy and liberality of the men who undertook and have carried it to completion." The Home and Foreign Record of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America; January 1872.

(4) The four back centre rows of seats were raised in 1884. The present pulpit, designed by Mr. David Stirling, was installed in February, 1873, at a cost of \$780.00. A marble Baptismal Font was presented to the church on Feb. 5, 1873, by Mr. W.S. Stirling. A small gallery in the west end was used by the choir. The four large windows in the transepts and the two windows in the west end above the gallery are all different in design, which feature adds greatly to the attractiveness of the building.

(5) In 1890 a committee was appointed to ascertain the cost of installing electric light. The first central fixtures were installed by William Robertson & Son, and can be lowered from the ceiling. The head of the firm, Mr. William Robertson, was a charter member of the congregation and was elected an elder in 1877. He was also Treasurer of the Missionary Association from 1871 to 1911. Mr. Robertson was a Director of the Union Bank and for sometime its President. He died May 10, 1919. A Celtic Cross was presented in the name of the family of Mr. Robertson; the late William Robertson; the late Mrs. J.W. Falconer; and the late Mrs. Sedgwick; and was dedicated on February 13, 1955. This Cross, which is inscribed: "In memory of William Robertson, a charter member of the congregation", is a replica of the monument designed by Dr. Tait MacKenzie as a tribute to his life-long friend, Dr. Archibald MacMechan, Professor of English, Dalhousie College.

On Communion Sundays, the communicants sat in the centre block of pews and non-communicants sat in the side seats. The common cup was used in the communion service, and a silver flagon was carried by an Elder to replenish the cup, which was handed from one to another along the pews.

Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D. (1872-1874)

After Presbytery agreed to the formation of a new congregation in the South End of the city, to be known as Fort Massey, certain differences of opinion arose and factions came into existence as to who should be their minister. Presbytery stipulated that neither the minister of Poplar Grove nor Chalmers should be called. Eventually a call, signed by 96 members and 78 adherents, was extended to the Rev. J. K. Smith of Galt, Ontario, and he was settled as minister on October 31, 1872. So successful was he as a mediator and diplomat that he brought the different factions together and prepared the way for Dr. R. F. Burns, who was inducted as minister on March 18, 1875.

Work among the younger people progressed favorably under the direction of Mr. Waddell in the Sunday School, and of Dr. Currie in charge of the Bible Class. A successful summer Sunday School was organized at Ferguson's Cove, with teachers from Fort Massey. On Christmas Eve, 1872, the young men of Fort Massey formed themselves into a society "for the purpose of mutual improvement", with the following officers: President, J. C. Mackintosh;⁽¹⁾ Vice-Presidents, A. Stephen Jr. and S. MacNaughton; Secretary-Treasurer, Angus Murray; Assistant Secretary, George Boak; Committee Members, Messer & Blanchard, Murdoch, and John A. Boak.

Shortly after Dr. Smith's induction, a three hour farewell service was held in the Church, November 4, 1872, for the Rev. Joseph Annand, who was going as missionary to the island of Efate in the New Hebrides. Nine ministers took part in the designation service, with Mr. Annand giving the main address.

After two years in Fort Massey, Dr. Smith returned to his former congregation in Galt, which at that time was described as the "largest Presbyterian congregation in Canada." He preached his farewell sermon in Fort Massey on December 6, 1874. The following day, at a farewell party held in his honor, tributes were paid to his conciliatory ministry in Halifax, by Dr. George M. Grant and by Dr. Burns. "His ministry has been most active and useful, and his influence for good has been widely felt beyond the limits of his own congregation. He leaves Halifax with the good wishes and high esteem of the whole community."

In 1886 Dr. Smith was unanimously elected Moderator of the General Assembly meeting in Hamilton. He moved to San Francisco in 1888 and retired in 1890. He died in Galt in February, 1905.⁽²⁾

Rev. Robert Ferrier Burns, D.D. 1875-1892

A Call, signed by 138 members and 63 adherents, was issued in January 1875 to Rev. R. F. Burns of Cote Street Church, Montreal. The salary promised was \$2,600. Dr. Burns was inducted on March 18th, 1875. Rev. C. B. Pitblado of Chalmers Church preached the sermon, and Professor MacKnight addressed minister and people.

In an article in *The Dalhousie Review* (1942) entitled "Church Memories of Halifax", Mr. C. Prescott McLennan describes Dr. Burns as "A Happy-Minded Scotsman." To quote: "Dr. Burns, the greatly-beloved pastor of Fort Massey Church for some years, had personality to a degree possessed by

(1) A founding member of the congregation. Born in Halifax 1841. Banker. Served as Alderman and Mayor of the city. First President of the Halifax Y.M.C.A. Filled the offices of Elder, Clerk of Session, Chairman of the Managing Committee, Trustee, Secretary-Treasurer of the congregation, Teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday School, member of the choir.

(2) Dr. Smith's son, Rev. J. Cumming Smith, a distinguished preacher, died at an early age in 1904, following an operation for appendicitis. He held pastorates in San Francisco, and for seven years was pastor of Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis. There is a plaque to his memory in that church.

not very many of his contemporaries. An extremely bulky man was Dr. Burns, in bodily girth if not in height. Living at the south end of Hollis Street, it was not always an easy matter for a very stout man to climb up Tobin Street of a Sunday when that steep acclivity was covered with ice and snow. So the story was told that on one such morning the Doctor engaged a lad to haul him up on a sled so that he might be present at the service. But it does not follow necessarily that a small boy could pull a heavy man on a sled from Pleasant Street up a slippery slope to Fort Massey. Nor did it follow on that occasion, when near the top the rope gave way, and over two hundred-weight in the Presbyterian Ministry coasted backwards to the bottom of the hill.

But a biography of Dr. Burns, if done with justice and a sense of humor, might have as many happy anecdotes as that of any Haligonian of his time." Mr. McLennan continues: "A thing I particularly liked about Dr. Burns was the unaffected and overflowing cheerfulness of a naturally radiant disposition. His credentials, I always thought, would have been impeccable for a post in a modern university as Professor of Optimism."

This appreciation of Dr. Burns is shared by Professor J. T. McNeill, who wrote: "As preacher, writer, and leader of opinion, he took a high place; and his memory is endeared by stories of certain minor oddities."⁽¹⁾

One year after Dr. Burns' arrival in Fort Massey, the congregation received a visit from Rev. Charles Chiniquay, a clergyman who had for years been a Roman Catholic priest. His coming to Halifax created quite a stir. He spoke in Chalmers Church and Brunswick Street Methodist Church, where all was quiet, but in St. Matthew's there were "manifestations of rowdyism." No trouble was anticipated for the closing meeting in Fort Massey, but from seven until ten o'clock in the evening "large gangs of Roman Catholic men and women besieged the church." One stained glass window was broken.⁽²⁾ Mr. Chiniquay was escorted to the hotel by a group of Fort Massey men. The session of St. Matthew's expressed concern and promised any co-operation necessary to "bring the offenders to justice".

So marked was the progress of this south end Church under Dr. Burns' ministry that three years after organization the sum of \$1,400 was contributed for missions and the schemes of the Church. The total givings averaged \$125 per family, the "highest rate yet attained in the Maritime Provinces". In 1879 there were 88 families and the Sunday School supported a catechist in Trinidad.

Dr. Burns was elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1887. He retired in March, 1892, after a distinguished ministry of 17 years in Fort Massey, and was granted an annuity of \$500 by the congregation. Dr. Forrest preached on April 3 and declared the pulpit vacant. Dr. Burns passed away at Broughty Ferry, Scotland, on April 5, 1896. In that same year a tablet was erected in the Church to commemorate his long and faithful pastorate.⁽³⁾

(1) "No man exercised a more effective ministry in the Church than Dr. Robert Ferrier Burns. Dr. Burns was the son and biographer of Dr. Robert Burns of Paisley and Toronto, and had finished his theological course in Knox College in 1847. He held in turn the charges of Chalmers, Kingston; Knox, St. Catharines; Scottish Church, Chicago; and Cote Street Church, Montreal." J. T. McNeill; "The Presbyterian Church in Canada 1875-1925"; page 222.

In 1872 Dr. Burns published an excellent biography of his distinguished father: "The Life and Times of Robert Burns, D.D."

(2) Dr. Falconer commented: "Fort Massey's windows suffered at the hands of a disorderly crowd when notice was served on the public that there were other Churches that had even finer stained glass windows — not Presbyterian; a message perhaps more suitable to a Fort than a Church".

(3) In an interesting letter in "The Seaview Gazette", a family publication edited by his son, Rev. J. Stead Burns, Dr. Burns writes May 2, 1892, from Broughty Ferry: "Here we are comfortably settled in our lovely summer quarters by the sea — close to where the expanding Firth of Tay merges on the German ocean. A splendid beach, not unlike that at Cow Bay, spreads out a few feet off". Dr. Burns goes on to describe their return to Scotland in the ship "Parisian". They sailed from Halifax on April 16th. Twice the ship made 335 miles a day. "It was hard to repress our deep regrets as the beautiful city of the sea, where we spent 17 happy years, faded from our view, and to sunder thus suddenly so many tender ties, the congregation, the Church, the city — will ever be on my heart". They reached Broughty Ferry on April 25th, and were met by their daughter, Mrs. MacKay, and her husband, and another daughter.

It is a matter of record that the introduction of the organ as an aid to congregational singing was the cause of strife in many a Presbyterian congregation and of “debate in many a Church court.” In many cases, instrumental music entered by way of the Sunday School, its introduction “to the diet of worship of the congregation often awaited the departure of venerable and determined leaders to a sphere where musical instruments are alleged to be more freely employed.”⁽¹⁾ No objection was offered by the Session in 1873 to the use of a melodeon in the Sunday School, but when nine years later a request was submitted from the choir through their leader, Mr. Mackintosh, for leave to use an instrument as an accompaniment in the service of praise, it met with considerable opposition. Several congregational meetings were held at which the suitability of an organ was discussed, and whether it should be in the gallery or behind the pulpit. At a congregational meeting held on July 12, 1882, Dr. Currie spoke strongly in favor of admitting instrumental music in the service of praise and “after an animated discussion, the resolution passed with but one dissenting voice.” Eventually, a pipe organ was installed behind the pulpit and first used on November 23, 1884, with Miss Edith Burns as organist. It was purchased from Messers. Hook and Hastings, Boston, at a cost of \$2,275. Previous to the introduction of electricity, the organ was pumped by hand. On request from the boys who pumped the organ, a cushion was provided for their comfort. It is recorded that in 1898 the Managers paid George A. Christie five dollars “for pumping the organ.” He later became a distinguished clergyman of our Church, the Rev. George A. Christie, M.A., D.D. In that same year, 1898, an electric motor was secured for the organ at a cost of \$290, and three pulpit chairs to replace the bench were purchased for \$100.

Work among the younger people⁽²⁾ and the women of the congregation received considerable attention from Dr. and Mrs. Burns.⁽³⁾ It is recorded that the Mayflower Mission Band held its first concert on April 2, 1887, and a “large audience found the program enjoyable.” Two years later, the Band held a Garden Party at Pine Hill. In the same year the Mission Band was formed, a Society of Christian Endeavour⁽⁴⁾ was organized with the following officers: President, Angus Murray; Vice-President, Joseph Wood Jr.; Secretary, John S. Smith. The Society met on Saturday evenings. It was noted that there were 21 Societies in Nova Scotia, and two years later, in 1889, there were 46 Societies, 35 of these in Presbyterian Churches, 5 in Methodist, 4 in Baptist, and 2 in Congregational Churches. The growth of the Society throughout Nova Scotia was largely due to the enthusiasm of a Fort Massey Elder, John S. Smith, who was also Secretary of the local group.

Speaking of pews rents, Dr. Burns said it was the practice in some other churches to throw the pews open to all comers at the Sabbath evening service, but no action was taken on his suggestion. However, Henry Brown, the janitor, whose salary was \$275 annually, provided the Session with a list of pew cushions that were continually occupied. He found 26 cushions to be infested with moths – among them that in the Minister's pew. Immediate action was taken on that matter. In 1884 the four back pews in the centre block were raised above floor level and four cushions purchased “as an inducement to parties to occupy them.”

The first by-laws of 1872 stated that “the Annual Meeting of the congregation shall be held on the

(1) J.T. McNeill, op.cit., page 211

(2) A Young People's Association was organized in 1887 with W.H. Troop as President. In 1888 a Working Boys' Society met fortnightly with John Seth as President.

(3) Under the direction of Mrs. Burns the Ladies Missionary Society was organized in 1886 with Mrs. Cornelius as President. It affiliated with the W.F.M.S. Previous to this the Halifax Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Eastern Section, was organized October 13, 1876, in St. Matthew's Church, through the efforts of Dr. Fraser Campbell, later of India, and Dr. and Mrs. R.F. Burns. Mrs. Burns was the first President, and Miss Forrester, afterwards Mrs. Fraser Campbell, its first Secretary. J.T. McNeill; op.cit.; page 140.

(4) The earliest Christian Endeavour Society in Canada was formed in Germain Street Baptist Church, St. John, N.B., Feb. 12, 1883. On June 1, 1885, the first Society in a Presbyterian congregation was organized in St. John's Church, St. John, N.B. J.T. McNeill; op.cit., page 173.

second Wednesday in June in each and every year.” This was changed in 1875 to read “on the third Wednesday in January.” In 1968 that was changed to the “fourth Wednesday in January.” It was largely through the efforts of Dr. Burns that a campaign was organized in 1886 to reduce the mortgage, which then amounted to \$16,000. Four years later \$12,000 had been paid off.

On February 18, 1875, a meeting of the members and adherents of Fort Massey was held to take into consideration the Basis of Union of the various Presbyterian Churches in the Dominion. Favorable views were expressed and a resolution “that this congregation approve the Basis of Union and accompanying documents” was passed unanimously.

Rev. Alfred Gandier, D. D. , LL. D. (1893-1900)

The problem of replacing Dr. Burns was no easy one, and many candidates were considered for the pulpit of Fort Massey. One such was found very acceptable as to his preaching, his doctrine, his delivery, his accent, his appearance; all these came up to Fort Massey standards of the day, and many wanted to call him, until following his second Sunday in Halifax, he was seen on a Barrington Street horse car, smoking a long black cigar with evident enjoyment. He did not get the call. The Session then began to search among those who had not applied, and on the recommendation of the Principal of Queen's University, Rev. George M. Grant, Alfred Gandier of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Brampton, Ontario, was considered.

The people of Fort Massey felt it was hard to replace a preacher with the ability and eloquence of Dr. Burns. One member remarked, “If we could get the eloquence of one, the piety of another, and the scholarship of someone else, we would find the minister for whom we were looking.” This ideal was realized in Alfred Gandier. After a vacancy of 18 months, he was inducted as minister of Fort Massey on October 19, 1893, Rev. John Murray presided, Rev. T. C. Jack preached the sermon, and Rev. Thomas Stewart and Rev. John MacMillan addressed minister and congregation respectively. Dr. Currie introduced Mr. Gandier to the people as they were retiring. Thus began what Dr. Dow describes as “one of the most notable ministries in the history of the Presbyterian Church.”⁽¹⁾

When the call came to him, he first declined it, but certain members of Presbytery felt that in the interests of the Church as a whole, he should accept. And so, under the authority of Presbytery, the minister of Brampton set his face toward the Eastern seaboard where he was to have a most memorable ministry.

This is how Rev. Peter M. MacDonald, then a student in Halifax, describes Gandier's first Sunday in Fort Massey: “It was a history-making event in the Gothic-arched church on Fort Massey Hill, Halifax, when Gandier began his ministry. October 19, 1893, was a calm, sunflooded day. The trees that lined the city streets had shed their leaves, and all the air was filled with the Sunday battery of church bells as the worshippers made their way to taste the new minister. Long before eleven o'clock, the pews were filled, and standing room was almost gone. Old and young were there; soldiers and sailors in uniform; students in droves and large representations from other churches. Thinking back to that happy day, nearly sixty years ago, one recalls the eager attention of the congregation to all parts of the service. The rich voice, the modest bearing, the perfect articulation, and the spirit of reverence that possessed the minister combined to make a fitting atmosphere for the sermon — a sermon that brought comfort and cheer, correction and encouragement. It was gratifyingly evident that the preacher was possessed by an intense but well-controlled enthusiasm, a glowing religious conviction, and a deep desire to widen the horizon of the church until all the creatures of God in the world owned His merciful sway. The boom of the noon cannon on the nearby Citadel, which had always made it necessary for watches to be checked, and the hunting-case to be clicked shut, was not noticed that day as the sermon concluded.”⁽²⁾

(1) The life of Dr Gandier, under the title “Alfred Gandier, Man of Vision and Achievement” was written by Dr. John Dow, Professor of New Testament Literature in Emmanuel College, Toronto.

(2) Dr. John Dow; “Alfred Gandier”; page 55.

In his preaching, Dr. Gandier favoured exposition. For the next seven years the people of Fort Massey heard the most faithful and eloquent preaching of the Gospel. Thirty-two years of age, tall and strikingly handsome, full of health and vigor, he was a commanding figure in the pulpit. Each sermon was a masterpiece. It was soon after his induction that he commenced a series of sermons on the book of Genesis. These were intensive studies. Altogether over fifty sermons were preached in the series. One result of his preaching on missions was such an increase in contributions to missionary support that Fort Massey Church led all the churches in the Maritime Synod in its money-giving. Four years after his coming to Fort Massey, Dr. Gandier reported, "For the first time in our history our benevolent purposes exceeds the amount expended for congregational purposes" "This," he said, "is as it should be."⁽¹⁾ One great improvement Dr. Gandier made was the introduction of the duplex envelope. Previously contributions to missions were collected by a house to house canvass every month. His appeal to give to both sides of the envelope met with success. Dr. Gandier also introduced a system of financing the Sunday School, whereby the congregation paid for the supplies and all the collections went to missions. This is still the practice in Fort Massey and has been recommended as the practice for the whole Church.

On Sunday afternoons, Dr. Gandier conducted a Bible Class on "The Life of Christ," the course being just about completed at the close of the seven years in Fort Massey.

It was during Dr. Gandier's ministry that the hall was built. Some members objected to the added expense. However, Dr. Forrest spoke in favor of the plan, saying it was "time for Fort Massey to move out of a basement."⁽²⁾ The contract on a tender of \$19,144 was awarded to John MacInnes and Son. This was financed by a loan from the Canada Life Assurance Co. The hall was opened April 10, 1898. It had become necessary because of the growth of the membership and the resulting increase in the number of organizations in the congregation.⁽³⁾

The occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria was observed by a special service in the Church on Sunday, June 20, 1897. The sermon was preached by President Forrest of Dalhousie College, and solos were rendered by Miss Lottie Hobrecker and Miss Margaret Bligh.⁽⁴⁾

Dr. Gandier's historic ministry in Fort Massey ended with the close of the century when he accepted a call to St. James' Square Presbyterian Church, Toronto, in January, 1900. There, too, he doubled the givings of that congregation to missions. Dr. Gandier was guest preacher on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Fort Massey congregation. He died at his home in Toronto on June 13, 1932.

Fort Massey has had a continuing missionary tradition which we would do well to maintain. A great impetus was given overseas mission work when, in 1897, Dr. Gandier stood up in the Synod meeting in Moncton to give the report on Foreign Missions, during which he made an impassioned

(1) Dr. Dow writes that although a lasting memorial to his leadership is to be seen in "two of the noblest buildings that grace the campus of the University of Toronto, Knox College and Emmanuel College," yet the most distinctive contribution Alfred Gandier made to the Church life of his successive congregations was "the elevation of the missionary cause." op.cit.; page 48.

(2) Dr. Falconer's comment was: "Up until then the basement had been the home for the Sunday School and Prayer Meeting; and while it was put to good use, yet this basement was not a very first class one — unlike the church of Laodicea which was neither cold or hot, this building was either too cold or too hot and the smoke from the furnace did not have either the virtue or the fragrance of incense."

(3) When Dr. Gandier left there were 114 families connected with the church. During his pastorage 316 names had been added to the Communion Roll, and 117 removed.

(4) A Jubilee hymn of 4 stanzas with chorus was included in the order of service.

Motherland beyond the sea
Thee we join in glad refrain
O'er the glorious jubilee,
Of our Queen Victoria's reign.

Also addition verses to the National Anthem by Rev. G. J. Low of Almonte, Ontario.

appeal for an expansion of overseas missionary activity, and with particular reference to the inclusion of Korea as a mission of the Church. Since that time, Fort Massey developed a fresh enthusiasm for missions, and during Dr. Gandier's ministry, gave the lead to the churches of the Synod in financial support. For several years the salary of Dr. F.J. Coffin of Trinidad was paid by this congregation. The work of Dr. Kenneth J. Grant in Trinidad was also strongly supported, as was that of Miss Annie Christie in Honan, China.⁽¹⁾ In her later years, Miss Christie took delight in relating to the Junior congregation the story of William James MacKenzie, missionary to Korea, a story which was much appreciated by the older members of the congregation as well as by the young folk. Financial support was given to an Indian student, Lal Bahiri, and to the Rev. Mr. Cropper of Demerara. More recently, Dr. and Mrs. Ian Robb have been designated to the Korean mission field, and Rev. and Mrs. A.T. Embree to the India mission field.

May we ever keep the balance true between our local concerns and the interests of the Church at large, so that this happy combination of missionary zeal with an enthusiasm for the work of our own Church, so well exemplified in the life and work of Dr. Gandier, may continue to distinguish Fort Massey.

Rev. James William Falconer , MD. , LL. D. (1902–1907)

Rev. J. W. Falconer was called from First Church, Truro, where he had a distinguished ministry, 1896-1901. Dr. W. McN. Matthews who wrote the history of First Church speaks of him as "the most erudite scholar and probably the choicest preacher in the long course of the river of years of the congregation." Of his ministry in Fort Massey, it was said, "At no time in Fort Massey's history was the Gospel of Jesus Christ more faithfully and eloquently preached than in the period of Dr. Falconer's ministry." Educated at Queen's Royal College, Trinidad, Edinburg University and Pine Hill, with post-graduate studies at Leipzig, Berlin and Marburg, Dr. Falconer was eminently well qualified as teacher, preacher and writer, in all of which he excelled.

Dr. Falconer was inducted into the pastoral charge of Fort Massey on January 16th, 1902. Rev. George E. Ross of Maitland, N.S. presided at the induction, Rev. J. S. Sutherland preached the sermon, and Rev. J. D. MacKay narrated the steps. The congregation had been well organized by Dr. Gandier and in work, contributions, and influence took a leading place in the Maritime Synod. Dr. Falconer's first sermon in Fort Massey was from II Timothy 2:4 "Preach the Word." At that time, there were 114 families in the congregation and about 100 students, including those from the Ladies' College. Professor Archibald MacMeehan taught the Bible Class, and the Chinese Sunday School continued to flourish under Mr. E. Kaulbach as Superintendent. The Young People's Guild, with Mr. A. S. Barnstead as President, reported lectures by Principal R. A. Falconer on Greek Sculpture, by Rev. Robert Johnson on Robert Burns, and by Professor MacMeehan on Browning's "Ring and the Book." It was during Dr. Falconer's ministry that Mr. Harry Dean began his long and noteworthy career as organist at Fort Massey. He was appointed organist in 1906 at an annual salary of \$350., succeeding Mr. Percy Gordon. Mr. Dean had studied and gained distinctions in the British School of Music and at the Leipzig Conservatory of Music. He came to Halifax as the Director of the Halifax Conservatory of Music, with the highest recommendations.

In June, 1907, Dr. Falconer was appointed Professor of New Testament Language and Literature at the Presbyterian College, Halifax, succeeding his brother Dr. Robert A. Falconer in that position, he having been appointed President of Toronto University. At his induction into the Chair of New Testament, Dr. Falconer chose as the subject of his address "The Movements in History within the last Century." Shortly after going to Pine Hill, he wrote a book entitled "The Three Crosses," which he dedicated "To the Office-bearers, Members and Adherents of Fort Massey Church, Halifax, in Grateful

(1) Miss Christie went to Honan in 1921 and was stationed at Weih Wei for several years.

Remembrance.”⁽¹⁾ After 34 years as Professor at Pine Hill, a position he filled with competence and dignity, Dr. Falconer retired in 1941 and was made Professor Emeritus. He continued his membership in Fort Massey, serving on the Session and as Minister Emeritus,⁽²⁾ an honorary position which he graced until his death on October 8, 1956.

The closing paragraph of the obituary prepared for inclusion in the Conference Minutes (1957) reads: “Dr. Falconer was always very much beloved by the people to whom he ministered, and by the many students who sat under him. He had the mind of a true scholar, the heart of an understanding friend, the spirit of a true follower of Jesus Christ. Always and in all things he was one of God's Christian Gentlemen.”

On December 6, 1964, a beautiful stained glass window, depicting Christ as Teacher, was unveiled by Miss Mary D. Falconer, assisted by Brig. G. B. Robertson and Dr. Thomson, and dedicated in memory of Dr. Falconer. In the right and left panels are the Holy Bible and the Communion Cup, and at the top, the Pine Hill Crest, indicating Dr. Falconer's main interests to be the Ministry of the Word and Sacraments, and education. The preacher for the occasion was a former Pine Hill colleague, Very Rev. James S. Thomson, who spoke on “Grace.” It was a very gracious tribute to an old friend. “In all his associations Dr. Falconer cast a mantle of beauty and a charm of grace which were seen and felt by us all.” The service was broadcast over Radio Station C.H.N.S.

Rev. Roger William Ross, M. A. , D. D. (1908-1926)

Following the resignation of Dr. Falconer in June, 1907, a committee⁽³⁾ was appointed at the Annual Meeting in January, 1908, to submit a name to a congregational meeting, as his successor.

The Rev. R. W. Ross came to Fort Massey from Guelph, Ontario, and was inducted on July 30, 1908. Educated in Toronto University, B.A. with Honours in 1889, and M.A. in 1892, he took his theological course in Knox College, Toronto. It was during his pastorate in Fort Massey (1920) that his Alma Mater, Knox College, conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity — a richly merited honour.

The 40th anniversary of the congregation was celebrated with special services on December 19, 1911. On that occasion, Dr. Forrest gave a brief review of the congregation's life and work over the years. Dr. Pollok assisted in the morning service, and Dr. Falconer conducted the evening service. At that time, only 10 of the original congregation were still attached to Fort Massey.⁽⁴⁾

On October 5th, 1913, a new organ⁽⁵⁾ was installed at a cost of \$6200. The preacher at both services was Rev. R.W. Dickie of Crescent Street Church, Montreal. The introduction of individual communion cups came, like other changes, not without opposition. A congregational vote taken in 1913 resulted in 125 for and 5 against the use of the individual cups. In that year, Mr. J. C. Mackintosh presented a set of individual cups with trays and a Communion Table. In the same year, gowns were provided for the choir members.

(1) His printed work includes “From Apostle to Priest”, “John Geddie, Hero of the New Hebrides”, “The Passion of Christ According to Saint John”, and articles in “The Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels.”

(2) Appointed Jan. 10, 1943. The 60th anniversary of Dr. Falconer's ordination was marked by a gathering in Fort Massey Hall, May 2, 1952, presided over by Dr. A.G. Pentz, Chairman of Presbytery. Tributes to Dr. Falconer's outstanding services to the life and work of the Church were paid by Dr. C.M. Nicholson, representing Pine Hill; Mr. A.S. Barnstead and Mr. S.A. Grimm, representing Fort Massey congregation and the Men's Club; and Rev. Earl Gordon who spoke of Dr. Falconer's ministry in First Church, Truro. Other speakers included Dr. A.A. MacLeod, Rev. C.J. Crowdis, Dr. Ian Mackinnon, Rev. George Farquhar, and Mr. Donald C. MacKay, representing the College of Art, in which Dr. Falconer had taken a great interest. An annual prize of \$30., later increased to \$50. for Senior New Testament in Pine Hill, was set up by the Session to honor Dr. Falconer's 60th anniversary.

(3) Members of the committee were W. H. Waddell, Rev. Dr. Currie, O. M. Hill, D. MacGillivray, A. S. Barnstead, Senator MacKeen, William Robertson.

(4) They were Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Mackintosh, Miss Margaret Grant, Mrs. James Gass, Mrs. R.D. Clarke, Miss Janet Romans, Mrs. John Duffus, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. J.H. Barnstead, and Mrs. John Currie.

(5) \$600 was allowed on the old organ, which is now in the School for the Blind.

Dr. Ross was minister in Fort Massey during World War I, and in the Halifax Explosion on December 6th, 1917, the Church was severely damaged. A number of women from what is now Victoria Hall on Gottingen Street were housed in the basement of the Church after the explosion. Almost one year later, on November 10, 1918, special services were held after extensive renovations and repairs, made necessary by that disaster. At a Sunday School Rally in the afternoon, a splendid response was made to the appeal for the Victory Bonds to be donated to the Forward Movement as a memorial in honour of those “who laid down their lives for the cause of Freedom.”⁽¹⁾

The Session records state that St. Andrew's Church on Tobin Street was closed in 1917,⁽²⁾ and also that a telephone, paid for by the Bible Class and Athletic Club, was installed in the Church Hall. In 1918 the Church was closed for five Sundays because of the influenza epidemic.

Dr. Ross was very active in the Forward Movement,⁽³⁾ in 1918 by the General Assembly with a view to awakening members of the Church to the duty imposed upon them by the new conditions growing out of the war. The amount suggested for Fort Massey was \$16,000, the amount raised was \$30,400.

War Memorial Window

On Sunday morning, December 4, 1921, the War Memorial window was unveiled by Hon. McCallum Grant, Lieutenant Governor of the Province, in the presence of a large congregation, including the General Officer commanding the Halifax Military District, and Staff; representatives of the Navy, Dominion and Provincial Governments, the Judiciary, the Mayors of Halifax and Dartmouth; the Consul General of the United States; and the Consul of France. Dr. Ross read the Roll of Honour, a list of nearly 100 names of those who had served during the war. Of these, twelve bore the family name of Stairs, six of whom paid the last full measure of devotion. Three buglers sounded the “Last Post” and “Reveille,” after which Dr. J. M. Shaw led the congregation in the prayer of dedication, followed by the sermon by Dr. H. A. Kent. The church was elaborately decorated with palms, potted plants and cut flowers. About the base of the window was placed a basket of poppies, symbols of Flanders field. This service has been described as “one of the most impressive in the history of Fort Massey.”

The War Memorial window is in the south transept of the Church, beside the John F. Stairs window. The subject is “David and his mighty men,” illustrating the incident when David, having ordered his bodyguard to provide water from the well of Bethlehem, they did so at imminent risk of their lives. David, therefore, refused to drink and ordered the water poured on the ground. The extreme top of the tracery in the window shows the helmet, sword and laurel. Underneath are the scroll and Psalms on one side, and the shepherd's pipes and sling on the other. The following inscription is at the base of the window: “In memory of those who died and in honour of those who served in the Great War 1914-1918. William E. Doane, Gavin L. Stairs Jr., George W. Stairs, Graham Stairs, John C. Stairs, Kennet Stairs, Philip B. Stairs, Donald McG. Stewart, George M. Sylvester.”

The following Sunday, the congregation was delighted to have a former minister, Principal Gandier of Knox College, Toronto, back as guest preacher. The messages of the day were most impressive and were greatly appreciated by large congregations. On Monday, Mr. Harry Dean gave an organ recital, assisted by Mr. George MacDonald of the Halifax Conservatory of Music. On Tuesday evening, Dr.

(1) From “The Evening Mail”, November 11, 1918. Provided by Mr. N. H. Akerlund.

(2) The Session record concludes: “Owing to the closing of St. Andrew's Church, we miss the bell that used to call to morning and evening service. A committee of the managers made enquiries as to the cost of a bell or chimes, and found the price ranged from \$200. for a single bell, to \$6,000. and upwards for a set of chimes.”

(3) The Forward Movement was far more than a money raising campaign. It had a three-fold aim: (1) an educative campaign, to place the Church situation before the people; (2) an effort to obtain recruits for the ministry; and (3) a plan to secure a financial objective. A Committee of Fifty was appointed with Principal Gandier as Chairman and Dr. Robert Laird as Secretary. J.T. McNeill; “The Presbyterian Church in Canada 1875-1925”; page 266.

Gandier addressed a mass meeting in United Memorial Church on the Forward Movement. The Jubilee services were brought to a close on December 18th, with the celebration of Holy Communion.

Church Union 1925

The vote was taken over a period of several days, from Dec. 22, 1924, to Jan. 5, 1925, with Mr. Alfred Dickie and Mr. E. L. Thorne as Poll Clerks, and Mrs. W. F. Page, Miss Jean Forrest, Messers. G. M. Wood, Archibald Morton, Ronald Stech, C. Jost Hamilton, Harry P. MacKeen, and Harold Robertson as scrutineers. At a meeting held Jan. 8, 1925, the Secretary, Mr. G. M. Wood, read the report of Mr. Dickie as follows: For Union 181, against Union 29, with two spoiled ballots.

On the tenth of June, 1925, Fort Massey Church entered The United Church of Canada, which joins the rich heritage of the Presbyterian Church with the noble traditions of the Methodist and Congregational Churches.

Dr. Ross demitted his charge on October 24, 1926, in order that he might accede to the request of the Executive Committee of the General Council to bring before the Churches of the Maritime Conference the claims of the Missionary and Extension Fund of the Church. He died in Toronto, February 28, 1960.

Rev. John Mutch, M.A., D. D. (1927-1932)

Dr. Mutch came to Fort Massey after a successful pastorate of seven years in First Church, Truro. He was inducted on April 29, 1927. Of his work in Truro, Dr. W. McN. Matthews wrote: "During his seven years of residence in Truro, he made a deep impression on the town. He was an attractive, friendly man. In the pulpit, he was virile and forthright, but withal sane and constructive."

A native of Toronto, Dr. Mutch was ordained in 1913 and four years later was appointed Assistant Editor of Presbyterian Publications.



Rev. Prof. John Currie, D.D.
organized congregation 1870



Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D.
1872-1874



Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D.
1875-1892



Rev. A. Gandier, D.D.
1893-1900



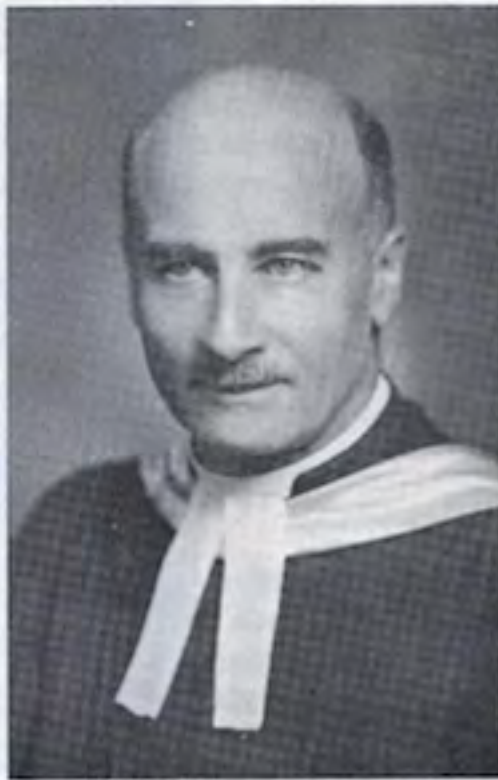
Rev. J. W. Falconer, D.D.
1902-1907



Rev. R. W. Ross, D.D.
1908-1926



Rev. John Mutch, B.D.
1927-1932



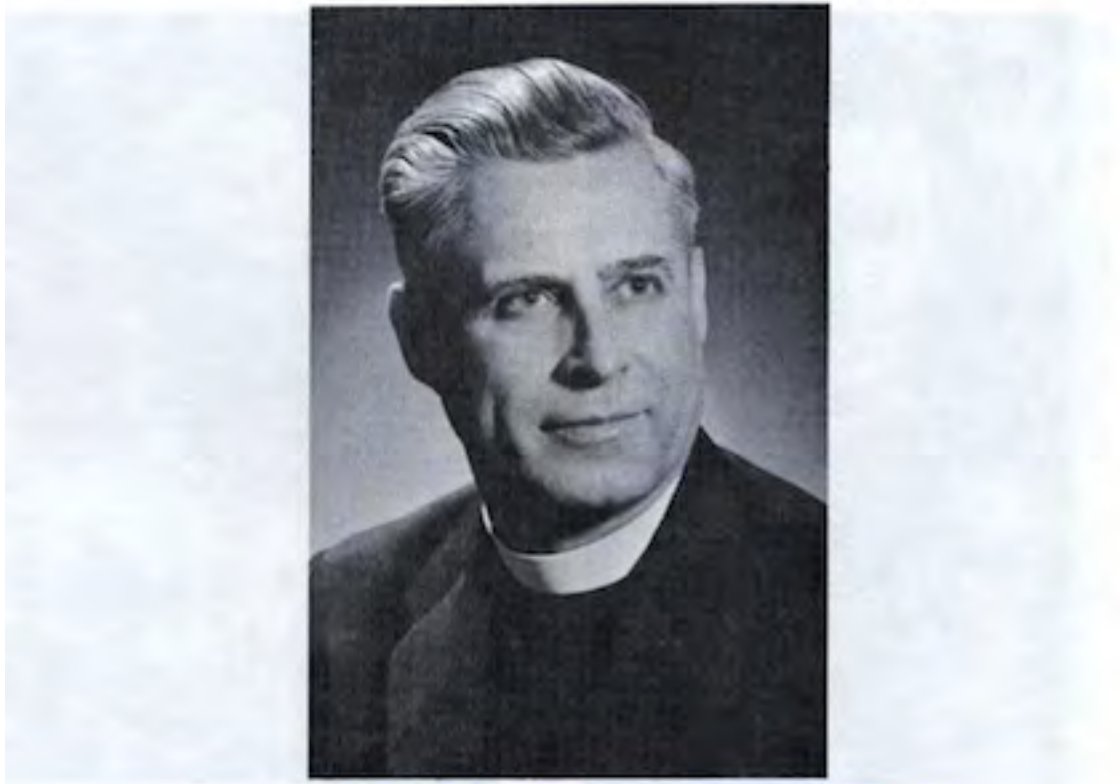
Rev. J. Norrie Anderson, MA.
1933-1940



Rev. Gerald F. Rogers, B.D.
1941-1947



Rev. Donald M. Sinclair,
C.D, MA, D.D.
1948-1969



Rev. Stanley G. MacQueen, B.A.
1970-

During World War I, he served as Chaplain of the Royal Canadian Engineers at St. John's, Quebec; and of the Canadian Machine Gun Depot in Seaforth, England. All four of his sons saw front line duty in World War II. One son, Roderick Charles Mutch, was killed in action at El Alamein in 1942.

An outstanding special event during Dr. Mutch's ministry was the Diamond Jubilee of the congregation. The celebration lasted over two Sundays, including the observance of the Holy Communion, a special evening service of song, a congregational social, an organ recital by Mr. Harry Dean, assisted by Mr. Fred Guildford, baritone soloist; Sunday services conducted by Rev. G. Stanley Russell of Deer Park, Toronto; and an evening lecture on "England in 1931" by Dr. Russell. The guest of honour at the congregational social was Mrs. J. H. Barnstead, mother of Mr. A.S. Barnstead, and the only surviving original member of Fort Massey. She was presented with a basket of flowers by Mary Stairs, daughter of Mr. Herbert M. Stairs, and a great granddaughter of Hon. W.J. Stairs, who laid the corner stone of Fort Massey. A short historical sketch of the congregation written by Dr. Forrest in 1911 was brought up to date and distributed to members.

Commenting on the generosity of Fort Massey, Dr. Mutch wrote in the Session report of 1931: "There is no Church in the Maritime Provinces which gives as much per member each year to the general work of the Church, and few in the whole Dominion which gives more per member. May we long live up to that worthy record."

On October 31, 1932, Dr. Mutch demitted his charge to accept a call to Knox United Church, Regina, Saskatchewan. In all the congregations he served, Dr. Mutch's preaching and personality not only appealed to the youth, but made a strong impact on the whole membership. Fort Massey welcomed him back as guest preacher when the Church was re-opened after extensive alterations, on October 28, 1951. In his sermons on that occasion, he lived up to his reputation as "an outstanding speaker, a keen student of the times, who is not afraid to face facts, and challenge his congregation with them." Dr. Mutch died in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1957, at the age of 70.

Rev. John Norrie Anderson, M.A. (1933-1940)

On April 23, 1933, Rev. J. Norrie Anderson was inducted as successor to Dr. Mutch. A native of Stornoway, Scotland, Mr. Anderson graduated from the University with honours in History, after which he entered New College, Edinburgh in 1913 to study theology. He was ordained in St. George's West Church, Edinburgh, a Church well known for such renowned preachers as Alexander Whyte, John Kelman and James Black. Both he and Mrs. Anderson served in the mission field in India — Mr. Anderson as Professor of History in Madras Christian College, and Mrs. Anderson as a medical doctor. Mr. Anderson came to Fort Massey from Brandon, Manitoba where he taught history in the college there.

During World War I, Mr. Anderson saw active service in France with the Royal Field Artillery. He was wounded in action and later gassed. He was demobilized in January, 1919, with the rank of Major and was awarded the French Croix de Guerre "for remarkable courage."

A fine scholar, Mr. Anderson kept abreast of the various contemporary movements in religious thought and general literature; this gave a distinctive literary touch to his sermons. A man of wide sympathies and of kindly disposition, he greatly endeared himself to his people, through his personal concern for them.

Mr. Anderson accepted a call to St. Andrew's Church, Saint John, N.B. in 1940. In 1948, he went to Toronto as Associate Minister with the Very Rev. J.R.P. Sclater. He later returned to Scotland where, for a short time, he was interim minister of Dornoch Cathedral before going to Lairg where he was inducted in March, 1951. While his ministry there was a short one, he was beloved and revered by all, and his work with youth was particularly outstanding. Mr. Anderson died April 30, 1952, while minister at Lairg, Scotland.

Rev. Gerald F. Rogers, B.D. , D.D. (1941-1947)

A son of the manse, Mr. Rogers was born in New Glasgow, N.S. where his father, Dr. Anderson Rogers, was minister of the United Presbyterian Church. He attended Dalhousie University, the University of Toronto and the University of Saskatchewan, graduating from the latter with an Arts degree. Ordained in 1921, after obtaining a B.D. degree from the Presbyterian College, Halifax, his first congregation was Merigomish, Nova Scotia. Among his other pastorates before coming to Fort Massey were Westminster Church, Winnipeg, as Assistant Minister; Central Church, Yarmouth; Pictou and Wolfville. In 1941, he accepted a call from Fort Massey and was inducted on January 31 of that year. Dr. J.A. MacKeigan presided, Dr. A.E. Kerr preached the sermon, and Dr. J.P.C. Fraser addressed minister and people. Pine Hill Divinity Hall conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1951. On August 28, 1947, he demitted to accept a call to Knox United Church, Edmonton, Alberta, and Dr. Falconer was appointed interim Moderator of the congregation.

Shortly after coming to Fort Massey, Dr. Rogers instituted weekly broadcast services which were continued until 1948. In the words of Dr. Falconer: "It would be difficult to estimate the extent to which his words and this service of Fort Massey circulate throughout the Province, and many tributes come to confirm him in the wisdom of venturing upon this new extension of the influence of this Church."

Dr. Rogers served in Fort Massey during the war years. It was a strenuous and busy time, with many extra demands on the clergy of Halifax. With such a great concentration of men of the armed forces in this East coast Canadian port, the facilities of all the churches were strained to provide Sunday services and through-the-week entertainment and hospitality. Fort Massey did its share, and many fine tributes were paid to the contribution made by the minister and his family, and by the families of the congregation. Sunday afternoon receptions, which were well patronized, were held in the hall.⁽¹⁾ The Couples' Club, organized in 1943 was in charge of the Friendly Hour, held after the evening service.

In March, 1945, a move was made to purchase a manse, and a committee consisting of Messrs. M.S. Clarke, Eric Grant, A.S. Barnstead, Howard C. Oxley, Norman Morison, and C. Jost Hamilton was appointed to look into the matter. On April 12, 1945, authorization was given for the purchase of a house at 5 Rhuland Street at a price of \$11,000, and that "the purchase price be raised by floating a bond issue with the Nova Scotia Trust Company as trustees."

After the introduction of the individual communion cups in 1913, all but one of the larger cups were no longer needed. Accordingly, a presentation was made to Knox Church, Saskatoon, Sask., of which Dr. J.S. Thomson was a member, on June 4, 1944, and on May 27, 1945, a similar presentation of a communion cup, suitably engraved, was made to Pine Hill Divinity Hall.

On August 10, 1947, Dr. Ian S. Robb and Mrs. Robb were designated to serve in the Korean Overseas Mission.

The 75th Anniversary of the opening of the Church was observed with special services, December 6-10, 1946, with Very Rev. Dr. George C. Pidgeon as guest preacher. At the morning service Dr. Pigeon preached from Ephesians 4:4 "The Divine Society" and in the evening from Acts 13: 1-4 "An Idea and an Adventure." The morning service was recorded on a disc. Assisting in the services were Dr. Falconer, Dr. W.G. Watson and Dr. Elias Andrews. Music under the direction of Mr. Harry Dean included the Hallelujah Chorus by the choir. Greetings and congratulations were read from former ministers, Rev. R.W. Ross, Rev. John Mutch, Rev. J. N. Anderson, and from Mrs. Jean W. Gandier, widow of a former minister. The evening service marked the 40th anniversary of Mr. Harry Dean as

(1) At the request of the Y.M.C.A. a War Service Committee was formed in Fort Massey under the chairmanship of Mr. F.G. Robertson, to provide a program of entertainment twice a year at their hostel. This developed into providing facilities for men of the Services in the Church Hall. Entertainment was provided and refreshments served every Sunday afternoon from 4 to 6. The attendance varied from 70 to 100.

organist and choir master. Mr. W.E. MacRae made a presentation to Mr. Dean on behalf of the congregation. On Monday evening the Anniversary Social was held, when greetings were presented by Rev. J.D. MacLeod, Chairman of Presbytery; Rev. Gordon Farady and Rev. George A. Christie, a former member of Fort Massey. Dr. Falconer read a brief history of the congregation. On Tuesday evening, December 10th, Fort Massey was host to some 65 veterans of World War II. A banquet was provided by the Woman's Association under the direction of Miss Kathleen Stairs and Mrs. G.M. Howard. A musical program was presented by Miss Marguerite Day and Mr. H. Douglas Ritcey.⁽¹⁾ Among the speakers were Dr. Falconer, Mrs. Peter Rogers and Mr. McCallum Grant. Capt. James R. Millar proposed the Toast to the three services. Mr. Arthur D. Stairs responded for the Navy, Mr. Douglas Bauld for the Army, and Mr. Vernon Carson for the Air Force. A Toast to the Church was proposed by Mr. George B. Robertson and responded to by Dr. Falconer.

Rev. Donald Maclean Sinclair, C. D. , M. A. , D. D. (1948-1969)

After a five month vacancy, Rev. D. M. Sinclair of Trinity Church, Whitney Pier, Nova Scotia, was called to succeed Dr. Rogers.⁽²⁾ The induction service was held on Thursday, January 29th, 1948, with the Rev. Karl F. Drew, Chairman of Presbytery, presiding. Rev. M. C. P. Macintosh preached the sermon, and Rev. J.D. MacLeod addressed minister and people.

Ordained by the Presbytery of Wallace on September 16, 1924, in Renwick Church, Linden, Nova Scotia, Mr. Sinclair served that congregation for two years, after which he took post-graduate work at New College, Edinburgh and at the University of Edinburgh. Returning from Scotland in 1928, he accepted a call to the Valleyfield-Orwell Head Charge in the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, where he served for eight years. In 1936 he moved to St. James Church, later Trinity, in Whitney Pier. In 1941 he enlisted as Chaplain in the Royal Canadian Navy and served for the duration of the war, returning to Trinity congregation in 1945. In 1948 he accepted a call to Fort Massey. In 1959 he was honoured with the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Pine Hill Divinity Hall, and in 1961 was elected President of the Maritime Conference.

On May 2, 1948, Hon. A. Stirling MacMillan unveiled the Memorial Tablet to the men of the congregation who gave their lives in World War II. Their names are: Robert Gillis, Bruce MacLeod, Alex Malaidack, Steven Malaidack, Reginald Murdoch, George Pope, William Pope, Hugh Rowlings, J. Norman Smith.

On May 14, 1948, the Presbytery of Halifax met in the Lower Hall to honour Dr. W.G. Watson on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his ordination. Greetings were given by Dr. J.A. MacKeigan, Dr. Elias Andrews, and Rev. B.J. Porter. Mr. Sinclair made a presentation in the name of the congregation, and Mrs. Sinclair presented Mrs. Watson with a bouquet of roses. A graduate of the University of Toronto, Dr. Watson served as Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament literature at Mount Allison University, coming to Halifax in 1926 to teach at Pine Hill Divinity Hall. He retired in 1941 and received the standing of Professor Emeritus.

In an experiment to get more people to attend the Sunday evening services, an interesting series of addresses was given during the Fall of 1948 and the Spring of 1949, by college professors and others. These services were well attended and proved quite popular with college students.⁽²⁾

Organ recitals were presented from time to time by Mr. Dean and by one of his pupils, Miss Vera Zwicker. In May, 1953, Dr. Charles Peaker presented a broadcast recital, and in June, 1966, Miss Helga Luhmann, Hamburg, Germany, very graciously gave an organ recital in aid of a children's camp fund.

(1) Appointed bass soloist, December 2, 1945, a position he still holds.

(2) Subjects presented were: "Faith and Works" by Dr. Burns Martin; "The Divinity of Christ" by Dr. A. E. Kerr; "Religion and Reason" by Dr. W. G. Archibald; "Action and Contemplation" by Dr. George P. Grant; "An Historian looks at Religion" by Dr. George E. Wilson; "The Church and the New International Order" by Justice John E. Read; "The Ministry of Healing" by Dr. Arnold Noble; and "The Church and State" by Dr. J. H. Aitchison.

In June, 1948, Rev. and Mrs. A.T. Embree were designated as missionaries to the Central India Mission Field, and on April 30, 1950, Mr. W. Harold Thompson was licensed to preach by a commission of Presbytery.

In the summer of 1951 major alterations were made to the interior of the Church, under the direction of Mr. G.E. Hayman, Chairman, Board of Managers, and Mr. D.M. Walters, Chairman of the Building Committee. Under the skillful supervision of Mr. Charles D. Franklin, the interior arrangement was made to conform more with the Gothic beauty of the building. Pews were arranged to provide a center aisle with two side aisles. Choir stalls and organ console were placed so as to provide a chancel. The Casavant organ was rebuilt. The pulpit was placed on the north side and lectern on the south side, with the Communion table at the back in the center of the chancel. While this work was being done, July 29 to Sept. 28, services were held in the Upper Hall. Concurrent with the remodeling of the Church, unused space beneath the Church was transformed into bright and modern Sunday School accommodation.⁽¹⁾ Much of the work there and in the Church was carried out by men of the congregation.⁽²⁾

Special services were held on October 28 and November 4 on the occasion of the reopening of the Church; Dr. John Mutch preaching on the first Sunday and Doctors John M. Shaw and Elias Andrews on the second. So great was the transformation in the appearance of the interior of the Church that one speaker remarked: "This marks a milestone in the history of Fort Massey Church."

A presentation of a pulpit chair was made to Fairview Church in November 1951. When the chancel was installed, it was found that the Communion Table presented by Mr. J.C. Mackintosh in 1913 was too small, and it was presented to St. Columba Church, Hopewell, N.S., in September, 1966. A new Table was given by the family in memory of Mr. Cyril W. Stairs, a most loyal and generous supporter of the congregation.

On December 28, 1952, Mr. Harry Dean concluded 46 years of distinguished service as organist and choir master, and on March 1, 1953, Mr. I. Bruce Jamieson succeeded him. Mr. Perry Teale was organist from 1961 to 1963, when Mr. Jamieson returned to Fort Massey as organist and choir master. On October 9, 1966, Mr. Curtis MacDonald, a grandson of the Rev. William MacDonald, was received as a candidate for the Ministry.

During Dr. Sinclair's ministry, five stained glass memorial windows were added to the sanctuary, thereby enhancing the beauty of a lovely Church. Through the enthusiasm and leadership of Mr. A.S. Barnstead, assisted by a committee consisting of Messers. George B. Robertson, Eric Grant, H. J. Denyar and Dr. Sinclair, a memorial window to the founders of the congregation was secured and dedicated on May 2, 1965, with Dr. Rogers as guest preacher. Assisting in this service were Mr. Barnstead⁽³⁾ a descendant of one of the founders and our senior Elder, who unveiled the window, and Brig. George B. Robertson, chairman of the Memorial Windows Committee. It was very fitting that Dr. Rogers should have a part in the service, as he too is a descendant of one of the founders of the congregation, through the Flemmings. Other founding families still represented in Fort Massey, and in other Halifax Churches, include the Stairs family, one of whom Hon. W.J. Stairs, laid the corner stone; the Boaks; the Robertsons; the Mackintoshs; and the Curries.

(1) The Lower Hall was opened on Rally Day, Oct. 7, 1951, with Rev. H.E. Campbell, Brunswick Street Church, as guest speaker.

(2) A Men's Club was organized on Dec. 13, 1948, with the following officers: President, Mr. Gerald C. Ritcey; Vice-President, Dr. A.B. Campbell; Secretary-Treasurer, Lt. Col. J.M. Kinnaird.

In August, 1967, the Men's Club was awarded the D.R. Poole Trophy for efficiency, in Canada-wide competition.

(3) A member of one of the founding families of Fort Massey, Mr. Barnstead possessed an intimate and accurate knowledge of this Church from his earliest days under Dr. Burns. At one time or another, he occupied practically every position available to a layman in the congregation; Sunday School teacher and Superintendent; Secretary and Chairman of the Board of Managers; Elder since 1910; Clerk of Session; organizer of a Boy Scout Troop; he maintained a life-long and intelligent interest in the affairs of this Church. He died December 27, 1967, at the age of 94.

At the morning service on May 30, 1965, Dr. Sinclair spoke on the symbolism of the Founders window. It was a pleasure to have with us on that occasion, Lieut. Governor and Mrs. H.P. MacKeen. Mr. MacKeen read the lesson, Psalm 23. This window is dedicated: "To the Glory of God and in Honour of the Founders of this Congregation." The scene depicted is the building of Solomon's temple. "I have built Thee an exalted house, a place to dwell in for ever." It is to be noted that the design of this window is different from the Falconer window. No two large windows in the church are alike in design. This window consists of three narrow panels and above them a large circle in which are three interlocked smaller circles representing the Holy Trinity.

Dr. Sinclair retired on September 30, 1969, after 21 years and 8 months as Minister of Fort Massey, and 45 years in the active work. At a delightful congregational social, with Mr. N.H. Akerlund as the genial master of ceremonies, Dr. and Mrs. Sinclair were presented with a generous gift, along with the good wishes of many friends. In the Spring of 1970, Dr. Sinclair was elected Minister Emeritus and made a member of the Kirk Session. Dr. A.E. Kerr was appointed Interim Moderator of the congregation. Rev. Dr. H.E.D. Ashford supplied the pulpit from September to December, 1969, and Rev. J.M.W. Beveridge from February, 1970, to June 30, 1970.

Rev. Stanley George MacQueen, B.A. (1970-

A native of Port Morien, Cape Breton, Mr. MacQueen was educated at Dalhousie University and Pine Hill Divinity Hall. Ordained in 1942, he has held pastorates in Aylesford, New Germany, Woodstock, N.B., St. Andrew's, Sydney, First Church, Truro, St. Andrew's, Sudbury, Ontario. Mr. MacQueen was inducted into the pastoral charge of Fort Massey on August 6, 1970. The service was conducted by Mrs. Laurence Bonang, Past Chairman of Halifax Presbytery. Mr. H.J. Denyar read the Scripture lessons, Very Rev. Dr. C.M. Nicholson preached the sermon, Rev. Aldred Woodworth read the charge to the minister and Mr. H.S. Farquhar the charge to the people.

For the first time in its history, Fort Massey has an Official Board, organized according to the United Church Manual, with Mr. William N. Kean as Secretary. The manse on Rhuland Street was sold in 1970 and a new manse purchased in the summer of 1971 at 1774 Cambridge Street. A strong committee⁽¹⁾ has been formed to plan for the anniversary celebrations in December, at which time it is hoped to have the Moderator, Rt. Rev. A.B.B. Moore, and the President of the Maritime Conference, Rev. Donald I. Macintosh, as guest preachers.

Our Women's Work

From its very beginnings, our Church has had the support of groups of energetic and devoted women. An interesting account of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, organized by Mrs. Burns, was written by Miss Jean Falconer, sister of Dr. J. W. Falconer, and read at a meeting of the Society in Fort Massey.

To quote from her paper: "It has not been possible to find any early records or minute books of Fort Massey Auxiliary, but the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was started in 1876 in the Manse of St. Matthew's Church. Mrs. Burns, the wife of the Minister of Fort Massey, and Mrs. George M. Grant, wife of the Pastor of St. Matthew's, stimulated by an address by Dr. Fraser Campbell, were among the most active in starting the new Society. Associated with them were Miss Cassie Fairbanks and later Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Currie, Mrs. John Forrest and other well known members of this Church. This new Society, afterwards to be known as "The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (Eastern Section)" was organized to awaken interest in missions among the women of the Lower Provinces. At first it was entirely local, being confined to the city of Halifax, but before very long, the chief movers saw that there was a larger field and by degrees the idea spread and before very long auxiliaries were

(1) Centenary committee: Rev. John B. Corston, D.D., Dr. Paul Cudmore, Mr. H.J. Denyar, Miss Margaret Grant, Mrs. J. Roger Mills, Dr. James D. McLean, Mr. George B. Robertson, Q.C.

formed in many churches outside the city. This was not accomplished without much work by the ardent promoters — Mrs. Burns and Miss Fairbanks toured the Province for many years organizing and encouraging new Auxiliaries.”

Reference is made in the Annual Report of 1887 to “The Ladies’ Association,” which is intended to “include all other Ladies’ Societies in the congregation, and is the medium through which they are organized. Sales, Socials, Sewing Circles have, in the past, been conducted by it. It had, during the year, started the Mite Society and the Ladies’ Missionary Society.” Officers of the Ladies’ Missionary Society are given as follows: President, Mrs. Cornelius; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Peter Ross, Mrs. R.B. Seeton; Secretary, Miss Flemming; Treasurer, Miss Edith Burns. “The Society meets monthly for reading papers, Missionary intelligence and Prayer. All the women of the Church are invited to join. It is affiliated with the W.F.M.S.” The following year it reported a membership of 56. Mrs. Wachter of Siam visited the Society in the Autumn of 1890 and gave an account of her life and work among the Siamese. A further interesting association with Siam is found in the career of Mrs. Anna Leonowens, who after teaching English and the ways of the western world to the royal children of the King of Siam,⁽¹⁾ came to Halifax in 1876 to live with her granddaughter, Avis, who had married Thomas Fyshe. Their son, Francis Fyshe, was baptized in Fort Massey and in later life was a regular attendant at Sunday services.

In the 1893 Report, the Society is called the “Woman 's Foreign Missionary Society” and later an Auxiliary of the W.F.M.S.

To quote again from Miss Falconer's paper: “And so the story goes, not very different from year to year, until in 1897 we find the first mention of Korea. Mr. Gandier was at that time pastor of Fort Massey and an ardent promoter of the idea of opening up Korea as a mission field. No doubt it was his eloquent pleading that persuaded the Synod to embark on the new adventure.⁽²⁾ The women of the W.F.M.S., touched by the moving appeal which came from the Korean Christians, backed him almost to a unit and we may be excused if we feel that this Auxiliary had much to do with it, as so many of the officers of the Board were members of Fort Massey Church. Mrs. Dodge was President; Miss Fairbanks, Mrs. Blackwood and Miss Louise Boak were other officials and actively advocated the movement.”

The decision of the Synod in 1898⁽³⁾ to undertake work in Korea greatly increased the givings of the W.F.M.S. The original purpose of the Women’s Missionary Societies was concerned strictly with “foreign” fields. But, as the W.F.M.S. grew, it was felt by many women that the needs of the North West of Canada should be included, so the constitution was changed in 1916 to include Home Mission work, and the word “foreign” was dropped. It became the Woman’s Missionary Society. Up to the time of Church Union in 1925, the W.M.S. (Eastern Section) carried on independently from the W.M.S. (Western Section). The two branches had worked separately, each with its own interests. In the Maritime Provinces our fields were Trinidad, Demerara and Korea. The Western Section had India, Honan and Formosa as its fields. When Church Union took place, the W.M.S. in this part of the world not only had as its concern the new missionary work of the Methodist and Congregational Churches, but also those fields of our own Church which had hitherto been regarded as the special province of the Western W.M.S.

(1) Phyllis Blakeley; “Anna of Siam in Canada”; *The Atlantic Advocate*; January, 1967; page 41.

(2) It was in 1893, the year Dr. Gandier came to Fort Massey, that the Rev. William James MacKenzie went “unsupported by the Church and alone, to Korea as a missionary, and after two years of heroic work, and almost incredible success, died there.” News of his death and the appeal from the Church in Korea stirred the people of the Maritimes to the depths.

(3) Dr. Gandier appealed to the Synod to continue MacKenzie’s work in Korea, and despite strong opposition and after heated debate that lasted nearly nine hours, Dr. Gandier moved and Dr. Daniel M. Gordon seconded the motion to include Korea as a mission of the Church. This became the unanimous finding of the Synod and the following year, 1899, work in Korea was begun by sending out a strong and very well-equipped band of missionaries: Rev. Robert Grierson, M.D., Rev. W.R. Foote, M.A., and his wife, and Rev. D.M. MacRae, B.A. Prof. John Dow; “Alfred Gandier”; page 61.

Miss Falconer concluded her sketch: "Fort Massey Auxiliary was founded under the inspiration of a noble idea and carried forward by the exertions of remarkable women of whom we may well be proud. They left us an example whose influence remains with us still. There are few Societies which have kept the faith bequeathed to them more steadily. It was fortunate in the women who gave it birth, but also in the succession of remarkable women who have served it throughout its history down to the present day, when its members are just as devoted and remarkable as at any time in its life".

The Golden Rule Circle

Formed in 1908, this branch of the Fort Massey Guild devoted itself to charitable work within the city of Halifax. In co-operation with the trustees of the Jost Mission Fund, the Circle organized a day nursery for the children of working mothers, at the Mission in 1910. Another worthwhile project was the compiling of a cook book in 1913, of over 100 recipes. The preface contains the advice: "If these recipes are carefully followed, even the young housekeeper need have no fear when using the 'Golden Rule' Cook Book." Proceeds from the sale of the book, \$50, were given to the organ fund.

The Currie Auxiliary

Organized in 1911 by Mrs. R.W. Ross, in memory of Rev. Dr. John Currie, this society is "intended to fill a gap between the Mission Band and the W.F.M.S." Officers for 1912 were: President, Miss Lieuana Stewart; Vice-President, Miss Agnes MacKenzie; Secretary, Miss Motie Munnis; Treasurer, Miss Bessie MacDonald. Membership 27. This auxiliary continues to fill an important place in the life and work of Fort Massey.

The Janet Oxley Group

The W.F.M.S. Auxiliary which later came to be known as The Janet Oxley Group maintains a particular interest in Bible study and in overseas missions. This group is called after Mrs. Janet Oxley, for many years a loyal and generous supporter of Fort Massey.

The United Church Women

The women's work in the various organizations in the congregation was co-ordinated and brought together under The United Church Women, which came into existence after Church Union. The inaugural service for the U.C.W. of Fort Massey was held on January 14, 1962, when Mrs. J. M. Kinnaird was installed as first President.

This congregation, through its Board of Managers, is greatly indebted to the women for their financial support not only of local concerns, but also for their generosity in connection with the missionary givings through the W.M.S. and the U.C.W.

Christian Education

Fort Massey began as a Sunday School in 1868, and it has continued to maintain an interest in various Christian Education programs down the years. Tribute must be paid to the faithful work of Sunday School superintendents and teachers who have carried the responsibility of training the young. Teachers from our School also assisted in the Albemarle Mission, the Coburg Road Mission and the North End Mission. In 1894 the librarian, F.B. MacCurdy, reported the Sunday School library had nearly 500 volumes, and that 150 new books had been purchased. Three years later, he stated: "the library needs a thorough overhauling."

Various references to young people's organizations are found in the annual reports. In 1888, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour was organized with W. H. Waddell as President. It met on Friday and Sunday evenings. Lectures by Professor MacGregor on "Star dust with illustrations," and a Wordsworth evening by Professors Alexander and Seth, are noted. In that same year, a Working Boys' Society, which met fortnightly, was formed with John Seth as President. In 1889, the Y.P.S. provided for the support of a student at the Trinidad College. Contributions also were

made to the Greenhead and Goodwood Missions to aid in securing two teachers for the summer months.

A Chinese Sunday School was organized in 1899. It originated in 1897 when ten Chinese met in the basement of the Church after the evening service for instruction in reading and writing the English language. Between that first meeting and the Summer of 1899, when the Chinese Sunday School was formed, 47 men attended the classes. Many of them returned to their native land. Mr. E. Kaulback was Superintendent, and this school prospered for many years under his direction.

The 1902 Report contains no reference to the Y.P.S.C.E. Instead, the officers of the Y.P.S. are listed with James F. Putnam as Secretary, Robert Schurman, President, and A. Forrester Mackintosh as Treasurer. The average attendance was sixty. In 1905 it was named the Young People's Guild, with A.S. Barnstead as President. In 1907 it became the Young People's Society, with young women filling all the offices. In 1908 it became the Fort Massey Guild, with A. E. Lawson as President, replacing the Y.P.S. In 1909 a boys' club known as the Knights of King Arthur was organized, with P.B. Falconer as President. It had a membership of ten. A year later a Young Men's Club was organized, with Cyril Stairs as President and Gerald Grant as Secretary. In 1914 a Bible Study and Athletic Club was organized, with Wilfred Marshall as President. Its motto was: "Pro Bono Publico." In 1920 the Y.P.S. was organized, with Darroch Magillivray as President.

During the ministries of Dr. Mutch and Mr. Anderson, there was quite a revival of interest in young people's programs,⁽¹⁾ under the leadership of successive Presidents, Gordon Hayman, Howard Oxley, Donald K. MacLeod, Elmer Ashley, and Tom Mitchell.

In 1914 the Canadian Standard Efficiency Tests first appeared. The plan was based on Luke 2:52 "Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man." In 1918 the word "Training" was substituted for "Tests." Boys of 12-14 were organized as Trial Ranger Camps and those of 15 or over into Tuxis Squares. Tuxis and Trial Rangers were organized in Fort Massey in 1919.

On October 28, 1921, the Maple Leaf group of the Canadian Girls in Training was formed. The girls met on Fridays at 5 p.m. Among those who helped with the program were Mrs. W.D. Forrest on Home Nursing, and Miss Jean Forrest who gave an afternoon a month instruction in handicraft and basketry. A Senior group was organized in October, 1928. Among the first leaders were: Mrs. Frank Milligan, Miss Jean Falconer, Mrs. Leon Muck, and Mrs. J. R. MacGregor. In the Annual Report of 1922 is a statement that Fort Massey C.G.I.T. contributed \$500 to the Maritime Religious Education Council and \$20 to missions.

It is worthy of note that a group of eight Explorers, organized by Mrs. J. A. Bowman and Mrs. C. D. Franklin, collected \$117 for UNICEF in one evening, as a Hallowe'en project.

During most of Dr. Sinclair's ministry, an enthusiastic and well-attended young people's study group met after the morning service for discussion.

Boy Scouts and Wolf Cubs

At a Session meeting held on April 14, 1911, Dr. Ross spoke on the desirability of forming a troop of Boy Scouts in connection with Fort Massey Church. The Session approved and Dr. Falconer and Mr. D. MacGillivray were appointed to pursue the matter further. On June 6, 1912, Mr. MacGillivray reported that the Scout Troop formed in connection with the congregation after being in existence for a short time, had now elapsed and that the expenses in connection with the same amounted to \$8.

Thirteen years later, a Troop known as the Tower Road Troop, was organized with Mr. Keith Allen as Scout Master. In 1927 Mr. Sinclair Wright became Scout Master, and the Troop reorganized under the direction of Mr. Brown, Pine Hill College, moved to Fort Massey Hall and became known as the

(1) Some idea of the variety of interests may be gathered from the subjects discussed: The Russian Five Year Plan, Disarmament, Pacifism, Unemployment, World Language, Wedgwood China, The Oxford Group, The Depression, Poverty and Wealth, Housing Conditions in Halifax, Gambling, Bermuda, and Walter Scott.

18th Boy Scout Troop. Mr. H.M. Stairs was appointed Scout Master, with three Patrols under the leadership of Robert Barnstead, Aubrey Josey and William Robb. The Scout Committee consisted of Dr. Mutch, and Messers. A.F. Mackintosh, A.S. Barnstead, E. C. Allen and F. O. Robertson.

In 1930 a Troop cabin was built on Scout property at Miller's Lake. The work was done almost entirely by the boys, between May and October, and they completed a cabin "anyone would be proud to own." The total cost, with equipment, was \$325.

Under the capable leadership of excellent Scout Masters, the 18th Troop has built up an enviable record of achievement, having some 27 King's and Queen's Scouts, and representation at several regional and world jamborees. In the Fall of 1968 Mr. Norwood H. Akerlund was one of seven Canadians to receive the Silver Wolf Award from Gov. General Michener for his splendid services to Scouting over many years.

Organized in 1927, the 18th Wolf Cub Pack has continued to provide an excellent program for young boys. The regular program has been enriched through the imaginative projects devised by the leaders whereby the members of the Pack participate in many outside activities.

A Century of Witness

Since its organization in 1871, to meet the needs of a growing population in the South End of the city, the congregation of Fort Massey had made a notable contribution to the social and religious life of Halifax and to the extension of Christ's Kingdom across the seas. Interest in every good cause, and especially in overseas missions, has always been well maintained. In the words of Dr. Forrest: "From its very inception, Fort Massey has been one of the most generous and public spirited congregations in the Maritimes. No congregation has had a larger proportion of its members engaged in every good work in our city." They have associated themselves with the various service organizations in the city, such as the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., the Infant's Home, and the School for the Blind.⁽¹⁾ It can truly be said that Fort Massey has contributed richly to the religious life of the city and its members have taken a deep interest in all affairs concerning the city's welfare. To quote from Dr. Forrest "Fort Massey congregation started under most favorable auspices. The roll contained a large number of the leading business men of the city and also the names of many of the most earnest Christian workers, both men and women."

Throughout the years, many prominent citizens in various walks of life have been associated with this Church. Among them may be mentioned Hon. W. J. Stairs and his son, Mr. John F. Stairs, M.P., men of great business ability and generous supporters of Fort Massey Church; Hon. Joseph Howe, Hon. David MacKeen and Hon. McCallum Grant, Lieut. Governors of the Province; Sir Robert Boak, M.L.C., head of the firm of Boak and Taylor; Mr. J. C. Mackintosh, charter member and leader; Hon. William Ross, M.P., Minister of Militia, Senator and strong advocate and supporter of the teaching of Gaelic at Dalhousie College; William Robertson, elder and President of the Union Bank; Hon. F. B. McCurdy, P. C., Hon. C. J. Burchell, P.C., Hon. A. Stirling MacMillan, Premier of the Province. The legal profession was represented by Mr. Justice Arthur Drysdale and Dr. D. A. MacRae, Dean of the Dalhousie Law School; the medical profession by Dr. John Stewart, elder and a student of Lister's; Dr. John George MacDougall and Dr. Kenneth MacKenzie; the Armed Forces by Col. F.W. W. Doane, Col. D. S. Bauld, Vice Admiral Harry DeWolfe, Vice Admiral Harold Grant, and Commodore Adrian Hope; the business world by Mr. J. S. MacLean, Mr. H. A. Flemming, and Mr. Dugald MacGillivray; the teaching profession by Miss Florence Blackwood, Principal, Halifax Ladies

(1) In the Session report of 1897, Dr. Gandier stated: "The liberality of the congregation to religious and philanthropic institutions of an undenominational character is evidenced by the fact that Fort Massey people gave about 1/4 of the total subscriptions to the Halifax Y.M.C.A. and the Infant's College; Mr. E. Home, and about 1/5 of the total subscriptions from the city to the British and Foreign Bible Society".

Chesley Allen, Principal, School for the Blind; Dr. Melville Cumming, Principal, N.S. Agricultural College, Truro; Dr. F. W. Ryan, Dean, Dental College; Mr. Jotham Logan, Teacher of Classics, Halifax Academy, and Dr. F.H. Sexton, N.S. Technical College.

Fort Massey has had very close ties with Pine Hill College since the days of Dr. Currie. Members of the faculty who were associated with this Church included Professors Robert Magill, Sir Robert Falconer, J.W. Falconer, J. M. Shaw, H. A. Kent, W. G. Watson, J. S. Thomson, A.E. Kerr, Elias Andrews, John B. Corston, and John B. Hardie. A great many students attended the services and assisted in Sunday School and the choir.

This church has also been closely associated with Dalhousie University, three of its Presidents, Dr. John Forrest, Dr. Alexander E. Kerr and Dr. Henry D. Hicks, being members. Dr. Archibald MacMeehan, Professor of English, taught a Bible Class and gave frequent lectures to young people's groups in the congregation. Other Dalhousie professors associated with this Church included Messers. James Seth, William Lyall and J. Gordon MacGregor.

Moderators of the General Assembly included Doctors J.K. Smith, Robert Ferrier Burns and John Forrest. A former elder, Very Rev. J.S. Thomson was Moderator of the General Council. Dr. J. W. Falconer was Moderator of the Maritime Synod, while Messers. Watson, Wright, Sinclair, Corston and Kerr have been Presidents of the Maritime Conference, as was also a former member, Dr. George A. Christie.

Important as is the record of the ministers and others who have so well served Fort Massey, the significant feature of any congregation is its total membership. In that respect, Fort Massey has been exceedingly fortunate since its inception. Men and women have given generously of their time, talents and possessions to support the Church. We still have a most loyal constituency.

While our people are concerned with the welfare of the Church, they have not been unmindful of the needs of others. Appeals on behalf of good and worthy causes beyond the bounds of our own congregation have not gone unheeded. Our givings to mission missions have shown a considerable increase over the years. Financial drives in connection with the Forward Movement, to which Fort Massey contributed \$30,400, Church extension, Mount Allison and Pine Hill have been generously supported. Contributions to the Canadian Bible Society exceed our quota each year.

In loyalty and gratitude to the men of vision who founded this congregation, and in response to the demands being made upon us in the present day, we must preserve this Church for the worship of God, for the teaching of the young, for giving comfort to all who mourn, and light to all who seek the way, and for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

CRIOCH.

Ministers of Fort Massey

1872-1874	Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D.
1875-1892	Rev. Robert Ferrier Burns, D.D.
1893-1900	Rev. Alfred Gandier, D.D.
1902-1907	Rev. James W. Falconer, D.D.
1908-1926	Rev. R. W. Ross, D.D.
1927-1932	Rev. John M. Mutch, D.D.
1933-1940	Rev. J. Norris Anderson, M.A.
1941-1947	Rev. Gerald F. Rogers, D.D.
1948-1969	Rev. D. M. Sinclair, D.D.
1970-	Rev. S. G. MacQueen, B.A.

Elders of Fort Massey Church

Original Session 1873

Rev. Dr. John Currie
J. S. Maclean
J. C. Mackintosh
Dr. H. Gordon
John Watson
George Buist

Elected 1877

David Blackwood
Isaac S. Murray
William Robertson

Elected 1883

James H. Austen
J. S. Potter
John S. Smith

Elected 1885

Rev. Dr. John Forrest

Elected 1890

Angus S. Murray
W. H. Waddell,

Elected 1903

H. A. Flemming
E. Kaulbach
Walter Lawson
John F. Stairs
Dr. John Stewart
E. A. Wood

Elected 1910

A. S. Barnstead
Rev. Dr. Alexander Falconer
Rev. James W. Falconer
Rev. Dr. Kenneth J. Grant
O. M. Hill
Rev. H. A. Kent
Arthur E. Lawson
D. Macgillivray
Gavin L. Stairs

Elected 1919

Alfred Dickie
H. A. Fleming
W. H. Hayes
John McKeen
F. O. Robertson
Rev. J. M. Shaw

Elected 1927

Rev. Dr. W. G. Watson
C. Jost Hamilton
Harold Oxley

Elected 1932

Rev. A. D. Morton
Rev. Dr. J. S. Thomson

Elected 1937

Dr. Melville Cumming
A. R. Rettie
W. J. Stairs

Elders of Fort Massey Church (Cont'd)

Elected 1940

Rev. Dr. A. E. Kerr
W. E. MacRae

Elected 1942

E. Chesley Allen
Rev. Dr. Elias Andrews
Gordon E. Hayman
Howard C. Oxley
Walter A. Stech
Harold C. Studd

Elected in 1945

John Mowat

Elected in 1947

Rev. George W. Whitman

Elected in 1949

Dr. A. B. Campbell
H. J. Denyar
Lt. Col. J. M. Kinnaird
James McEwan
F. R. MacKinnon
Ronald H. Simms

Elected in 1956

Charles D. Franklin
William N. Kean

Robert L. Thorpe
Spurgeon A. Grimm
Rev. Dr. John B. Hardie
Rev. M. C. P. Macintosh
George B. Robertson

Elected 1959

August A. DeBard, Jr.
Dr. William M. MacRae
P. A. Rowlings
Dr. Lea C. Steeves
Rev. Dr. J. B. Corston
Dr. J. D. McLean

Elected 1963

N. H. Akerlund
J. A. Bowman
James I. Maclaren
Allan E. MacMillan

Elected 1968

Charles W. Burchell
Malcolm S. Kingwell
Charles C. MacDonald
Daniel M. Walters

Elected 1970

Rev. Dr. D. M. Sinclair

Clerks of Session

1873-1877	Dr. H. Gordon
1878-1884	I. S. Murray
1884-1890	J. C. Mackintosh
1890-1904	W. H. Waddell
1904-1909	Walter Lawson
1909-1913	E. A. Wood
1913-1920	Dr. John Forrest
1920-1926	D. Macgillivray
1926-1936	H. A. Flemming
1936-1939	F. O. Robertson
1939-1951	A. S. Barnstead
1952-1966	W. A. Stech, Associate Clerk
1966-1967	Dr. J. D. McLean, Associate Clerk
1967-	Dr. J. D. McLean

Superintendents of the Sunday School

1868-1871	W. H. Waddell
1871-1888	J. S. Maclean
1888-1894	John F. Stairs
1894-1896	J. C. Mackintosh
1896-1904	John F. Stairs
1905-1907	Arthur E. Lawson
1907-	A. C. Baillie
1907-1908	Walter Lawson
1908-1910	H. A. Flemming
1910-1921	Rev. J. W. Falconer
1921-1934	A. S. Barnstead
1935-1943	Dr. Melville Cumming
1943-	W. Clarke MacDonald
1944-1945	Kenneth G. Partridge
1946-1955	F. R. MacKinnon
1955-1958	Dr. Melville Cumming
1959-1965	Dr. J. D. McLean
1965-1971	Dr. William M. MacRae
1971-	Dr. Paul Cudmore

Secretary - Treasurers

1869-1872	Arch. Patterson
1872-1882	J. C. Mackintosh
-1882	H. A. Flemming
1882-1891	James H. Austen
1891-1893	G. S. Gordon
1893-1896	George E. Boak
1896-1905	A. S. Barnstead
1905-1911	A. S. Barnstead, Treasurer
1905-1911	H. J. Stech, Secretary
1911-1914	H. J. Stech, Secretary-Treasurer
1914-1924	G. M. Wood
1917-1924	C. Jost Hamilton, Asst. Secretary
1924-1948	C. Jost Hamilton, Secretary-Treasurer
1948-1971	J. A. Bowman, Treasurer
1948-1949	G. Clayton Teed, Secretary
1949-1960	Philip A. Rowlings, Secretary
1961-1968	James McEwan, Secretary
1969-	Miss Hazel Carter, Secretary
1971-	William S. Fong, Treasurer

Missionary Treasurers

1871-1912	William Robertson
1912-1919	A. S. Barnstead
1919-1932	F. O. Robertson
1932-1943	George M. Wood
1943-1965	Harold C. Studd
1965-	J. J. Gordon MacDonald

Organists Since the Installation of the First Pipe Organ in 1884

1884-1890	Miss Edith H. Burns
1890-1892	Mr. F. C. Helsby
1892-1896	Mr. C. C. Hole
1896-1904	Mr. Fred C. Clarke
1904-1906	Mr. Percy Gordon
1906-1952	Mr. Harry Dean
1953-1961	Mr. I. Bruce Jamieson
1961-1963	Mr. Perry W. Teale
1963-	Mr. I. Bruce Jamieson

United Church Women

Presidents

Mrs. J. M. Kinnaird
Miss Charlotte Allan
Mrs. H. C. Studd
Mrs. J. B. Corston
Mrs. F. J. MacPherson
Mrs. J. Roger Mills

United Church Men

Presidents

Gerald C. Ritcey
James Murdoch
S. A. Grimm
M. E. Allen
Kent Martin
G. M. Thomas
D. H. Franklin
H. F. Peters
Dr. A. B. Campbell
N. H. Akerlund
Dr. M. Cumming
H. G. Parker

Scoutmasters

18th Boy Scout Troop

Herbert M. Stairs
Norwood H. Akerlund
Charles W. Burchell
David A. S. Dyer
Ralph Flemming
Robert F. McEwan
Mel Freeman
Jack L. Malloy
Norwood H. Akerlund
Donald C. Sinclair
Robert S. Rowbottom
Paul M. O'Connell
R. T. Reid

Cubmasters

18th Wolf Cub Pack

Basil Skinner
Gordon MacOdrum
Theodore Cumming
W. Graham Allen
Alice W. Lable
Robert Barnstead
Ralph Flemming
Rollie P. Carson
Margaret Allan
Mable Speed
Joan Hudson
Beatrice Isenor
Eunice Weatherdon
Melvin Allen
Ian MacDermid
Katherine G. Steeves

King's Scouts

18th Boy Scout Troop

Robert Barnstead
Charles W. Burchell
Norwood H. Akerlund
Andrew Mackintosh
John Mutch
Ralph Flemming
Carleton Smith

Charles Day
Jack Faulkner
James Murdoch
Gerald Vaughan
Stanley King
Frank MacLeod
Gordon Billard

Queen's Scouts

18th Boy Scout Troop

Fred Temperton
Charles P. Burchell
Thomas Burchell
Donald Steeves
Douglas Kernaghan
Sandy Steeves
Robert Rowbottom

Donald C. Sinclair
Gordon Steeves
James MacDougall
John Steeves
Vannie Nicholson
Jamie Steeves

Memorial Tablets in Fort Massey Church

In loving memory of James C. Mackintosh 1839-1924. A Founder and for many years an Elder of Fort
M a s s e y C h u r c h .

In memory of Rev. Robert Ferrier Burns, D.D. Bornat Paisley, Scotland, Dec. 23rd, 1826. Died April
5th, 1896. For twenty-one years pastor of this congregation. A good citizen, a true friend. Above all a
faithful and honoured Minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.

In loving memory of Gerald Wallace Grant, M.C., B.A. Dal., M.B., CH.B., Edin. Died May 20th,
1927. This tablet is placed here by his wife, father, mother, brothers and sister. At rest.

To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Rev. John Forrest, DD., LL.D. Born 25 November 1842.
Died 23 June 1920. Distinguished as an educationalist, churchman, citizen. For 36 years a member
and an Elder of this congregation. In all things a faithful witness of Jesus Christ, and an example to the
flock. Erected by the Kirk Session.

In loving memory of William Gordon Henry. Born August 3, 1901. Drowned in Halifax Harbour on
July 1st, 1920. Erected by his parents.

Lord I have loved the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth. In loving
memory. Archibald McKellar MacMechan, Ph.D., LL.D. (Toronto) LL.D. (Dalhousie) F.R.S.C. Born
June 21st 1862. Died August 7th, 1933. "E'en as he trod that day to God, so walked he from his birth,
in simpleness and gentleness and honour and clean mirth" Ich bin dein.

In memory of William Harris Harrington and Charlotte Geddie Harrington. Also their children Emily
Bevan Harrington, John A. Gedislie Harrington. Erected by daughters Charlotte G. Musgrave and
Lucy M. H. Roux in 1936.

In loving memory of Private Graham Stairs, C Company, 85th Battalion. Nova Scotia Highlanders,
C.E.F. Died at Halifax Dec. 10th 1915. Aged 21 years. Also of Captain Gavin L. Stairs, Jr., 14th
Battalion, Royal Montreal Regiment, First Canadian Division. Killed in action at Moquet Farm
during the Battle of the Somme, September 7th, 1916. Aged 20 years. Ypres April 1915 — La
Somme Sept. 1916. Beloved sons of G. L. and M. E. Stairs.

In proud and loving memory of Lieut. George William Stairs, 14th Battalion, C.E.F. Killed in action at
St. Julien during the 2nd Battle of Ypres. April 24th, 1915. Aged 27 years. And of Captain John
Cuthbert Stairs, 25th Battalion, C.E.F. Killed in action at the taking of Courcellette, during the battle of
the Somme, Sept. 15th, 1916. Aged 24 years. Beloved sons of George and Helen Stairs.

In ever loving memory of Kennet Stairs, Lieut., 60th Battery, C.F.A. Killed in action near Cambrai, Sept. 30th, 1918. Aged 29 years, and of Philip Boyd Stairs, D.S.O., Lieut., 5th Canadian Trench Mortar group. Died of influenza at Valenciennes, November 21st, 1918. Aged 24 years. Beloved sons of Edward and Isabella Stairs.

“Spem successus alit.” In memory of Honourable William Ross, P.C. Born 20 Dec. 1825. Died 17 March, 1912. Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia 1859-1867. Member of Parliament, Dominion of Canada, 1867-1874. Minister of Militia and Defence 1873-1874. Collector of Customs, Halifax, 1874-1888. Member of Parliament, Dominion of Canada, 1900-1904. Senator, Dominion of Canada, 1905- 1912. At one time a Lieutenant Colonel in the Militia. Grand Master Free Masons of Nova Scotia. President of the Keltic Society of Nova Scotia and an Honourary member, North British Society, Halifax. For thirty-seven years a devoted member of this Church. Erected by his family.

1914-1918. In ever loving and loyal memory of Capt. Wm. E. E. Doane, 40th and 25th Battalion, C.E.K. Killed in action at Regina Trench near Courcelette, France. October 1st, 1916. Born June 2nd, 1893. Son of F. W. W. and Alice E. Doane.

Sacred to the memory of the Honourable David MacKeen. Born at Mabou, 28th Sept. 1839. Died in Halifax, 13th Nov. 1916. A captain of native industries. Represented Cape Breton in the House of Commons, 1887-1896. Appointed to the Senate of Canada, 1896-1915. Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia. “He served his generation.”

In Loving Memory of Laura McNeill Grant. 1862-1956. Erected by her children.

To the Glory of God and in memory of Oliver Massie Hill, son of Rev. James Ormerod Hill, “Eignbrook,” Hereford, England. May 1848-Feb. 1923. A devoted elder of the Church. An ardent worker for Christ among the young; upright and honourable throughout his career, steadfast and loyal to his God through years of suffering.

In loving memory of John S. McLean. Born December 12th, 1828. Died April 25th, 1889. A devoted elder of the Church. Universally respected as a citizen. A leader in every good work. “Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord” Rom. 12:11. Erected by his family.

This Memorial is erected to the Glory of God in honour of all those who served and in grateful memory of the following who gave their lives in the Second World War 1939-45.

ROBERT GILLIS	REGINALD MURDOCH
BRUCE MacLEOD	GEORGE POPE
ALEX MALAIDACK	WILLIAM POPE
STEVEN MALAIDACK	HUGH ROWLINGS
J. NORMAN SMITH	

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off. Heb. XI 13.

To the Glory of God and in grateful remembrance of Arthur S. Barnstead, Q.C., I.S.O., 1873-1967. A lifelong member of Fort Massey congregation. Valued Elder, distinguished citizen and public servant.

Memorial Windows in Fort Massey Church

“In as much as ye did it unto one of the least of these ye did it unto me.” In loving memory of John Fitzwilliam Stairs. Born 19th January 1848. Died 26th September 1904. This window was placed here by his widow and children A.D. 1909.

“Then said Jesus, Go and do thou likewise.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Sir Robert Boak, KB., Born September 19, 1822. Died December 5, 1904.

“I am the Resurrection and the Life.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Robert Romans and his Family. Associated with this congregation from 1871-1921.

“I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep and am known of mine.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Rev. John Currie, D.D., who organized this congregation in 1871, and was thereafter a faithful Elder for 38 years. Born 1828. Died 1909. Erected by the congregation.

“All that heard Him were astonished at His understanding.” To the Glory of God and in memory of Hon. Charles J. Burchell, P.C., Q.C., and his wife, E. Gertrude Burchell, daughter of the late Dr. John D. Currie, the organizer of this congregation. Presented by the family.

“Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Mr. and Mrs. E. Albert Wood.

“Now is Christ risen from the dead.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Harold Oxley, an esteemed Elder of this congregation.

“Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me. For of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.” In memory of Joseph Wood, for 25 years a member of this Church. Born 4th August 1830. Died October 5th, 1901. Erected by his Family.

“I have built Thee an exalted house, a place for Thee to dwell in forever.” To the Glory of God and in honour of the Founders of this congregation.

“He opened his mouth and taught them.” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Rev. James W. Falconer. Born 1868. Died 1956. Minister of this Church 1902-1907. Elder and Minister Emeritus.

“And straightway they forsook their nets and followed Him” To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of the Honourable MacCallum Grant. Born May 17, 1844. Died February 23, 1928. Lieut. Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia 1916-1924.

“The Spirit of the Lord God came upon David from that day forward.” To the Glory of God and in devout thanksgiving for the safekeeping of their sons throughout the war on land and sea, this window is reverently dedicated by the Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. MacCallum Grant. 1921.

“Is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives.” In memory of those who died and in honor of those who served in the Great War, 1914-1918. William E. Doane, Gavin L. Stairs Jr., George W. Stairs, Graham Stairs, John C. Stairs, Kennet Stairs, Philip B. Stairs, Donald McG. Stewart, George M. Sylvester. Erected by Fort Massey congregation.

Gifts and Memorials in the Church

(Not including windows and tablets)

Communion Table	Presented by Mr. J. C. Mackintosh (Later given to St. Columba Church, Hopewell, N.S.)
Communion Cups and Plates	Presented by Mr. J. C. Mackintosh
Baptismal Font	Presented by Mr. W. S. Stirling
Minister's Guest Book	Presented by Lt. Gov. McCallum Grant
Communion Plates	In memory of Mrs. R. F. Yeomans
Visitor's Book	In memory of Rev. Grover Livingstone
Communion Table and Bench	In memory of Cyril W. Stairs
Silver Reading Stand	Presented by Mr. Arthur D. Stairs
Celtic Cross	In memory of Mr. William Robertson
Baptismal Bowl	In memory of Mrs. A. G. Morrison
Pulpit and Lectern	Presented by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Douglas
Drapes	In memory of Mrs. A. G. Morrison and Mrs. R. W. Ross
Bibles	In memory of Mrs. Grace Watson, Mrs. Janet Oxley and Mrs. Ruperta Ruberry
Hymnaries	In memory of Mrs. E. D. Adams, Miss Eleanor Stairs, Mr. C. W. Rowlings, Miss Elizabeth B. Chipman
Silver Candelabra	In memory of Mrs. J. M. Kinnaird
Flower Vase	In memory of Mr. Alex R. Waugh
Anthem Books	In memory of Dr. Melville Cumming
Viewlex Projector	In memory of Col. H. J. Stech