

**St. James' May 2007 Newsletter**  
**Many Mini Ministry Mysteries**

**Doris Taylor Memories**

**Did you know.....?**

The ministry of guiding children through their Christian experiences is often fraught with diversions and other delights. Many have taken the challenge to instruct children and mentor Christian ways. Memories always include your co-workers. Blessed are they who teach.

The following vignettes and recollections are Doris Taylor's memories from the 1950's and early '60's when church youth organizations included Girl's and Junior's Auxiliary - (G.A. & J.A.), the Sunday School as well as the Anglican Young People's Association (AYPA).

- Maude Filby was the leader of the J.A. and also the 6 -10 year old Sunday School class. She and her husband, Leonard who was the Principal of Albert School and later Haultain School, had no children. Mrs. Filby treated the children as though they were her own. Her dedicated work at St. James' impressed Doris.
- The Junior (ages 6-9) Sunday School classes were held upstairs in the Parish Hall. Benches were set up facing the stage. These benches had fold down legs that were held in place (somewhat securely) by cotter pins. During the singing of hymns, the children would stand. Some of the young boys, (those of an impish persuasion), were known to get down on the floor to pull out the cotter pins. To the children's surprise, upon sitting down trustingly at the end of the hymn, the benches would collapse. This trickery caused much disruption, wounded the children's dignity, exasperated the teachers, and gave the devious boys great delight!
- For the S.S. offertory, a basin was set at the front of the room. The children would file past the basin to drop in their coins while all sang the song, 'Hear the pennies dropping'. We presume that the pennies always dropped and never were scooped up!

- Plasticene work was always popular with the children. Doris remembers having the children make 'Moses in the basket' figures.
- During the Lenten Season one year, the Junior AYPAs, on the realization that they couldn't have a dance, met instead at the Taylor's house. Maurice and Doris couldn't be home so the help of two senior AYPAs, Elwood Jones and Edwin Willer, was enlisted. They chaperoned the young teens. The Taylors returned home to find that all was under control. Some 'party crashers' had been sent packing and the young teens had had a great time laying about, talking, eating and listening to records.
- During John Conlin's tenure as rector (1963-'69) the upper level of the Parish Hall was used for recreation. All the collapsible tables and benches would be stacked on the stage to clear the floor. Two badminton courts were set up. Exciting and challenging badminton matches ensued.

These are but a few of the memories of the ministering to the youth of St. James'.