

Church addition is complete

St. Andrew's has a colorful history in Newmarket

NEWMARKET — In the early 1800s, Presbyterians met in the members' homes until a sufficient number of families became an organization and approached the established Church of Scotland for a resident minister.

In 1834 the Rev. Henry Gordon from Endinburgh was inducted. In 1836 the church building was erected upon property bequeathed to the congregation by Timothy Millard. It was formally named St. Andrew's, but was referred to as the "Old Kirk."

In 1870 a second congregation was formed and, under the leadership of the Rev. George Bruce, convinced the members of the "Old Kirk" there should be only one church. A new site at the join of Eagle and Water Streets was chosen and a sanctuary erected.

In 1964 a Christian Education Hall was erected, and the large red brick house which had been used for Church School classes was demolished to make way for a parking lot.

From 1969 to 1984 the Rev. Craig Cribar, now of Acton, ministered to St. Andrew's. By the time the present minister Rev. Angus McGillivray was inducted, it was decided that the church had the happy problem of over-crowding, and a committee was appointed to study and bring in a solution.

For six years this committee has met regularly, investigating, assessing, visiting members of the congregation to determine wishes and degree of commitment, hiring an architect than a project manager, after the decision was made to erect a building at a cost of approximately \$1.5 million.

Now the building has been completed within reasonable limits of the budget. Every meeting was opened with a prayer for guidance and closed with a prayer of thanksgiving.



NEW ORGAN — Rev. Angus McGillivray watches his wife Kathleen play the organ in the new sanctuary of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Photo by Ian McInroy