

## **Church Council Report – 2013**

Changing of the guard! Although we did not have any traditional bobbies present, and our congregation did not welcome in a new monarch, we did have a transition in pastoral leadership this year. Over the summer, we welcomed in Pastor Francie and blessed Pastor Don on his retirement, or semi-retirement.

At times of pastoral transition, both the congregation and the incoming pastor can be a little nervous. Neither is quite sure what to expect. However, rest assured, God has not led us astray and will not do so now. God has provided our congregation with a new member of the family. With God's help, Pastor Francie will continue the spiritual leadership that has preceded her.

I recently stumbled upon a quote which I believe fits well with our recent transition. "No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending." As a congregation we bless the past and the many new beginnings it has had just as we welcome the new to start toward a new end unknown by us but known to God. Pastor Francie will not go back and start a new beginning, rather she will help lead us toward our unknown new ending.

As we look to the future, let us not forget the past. Our church is an active community with many interest-based groups. Each group, although separate, must work together to fulfill the mission of the church. This past year has been no different – everyone has worked together to make another successful year.

I strongly encourage everyone to take time and read through the 2013 Annual Church Conference report. It is a compilation of all the good deeds of our many groups and committees. It provides a small snapshot of the life of our church over the past year.

May God's grace be with you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Ruoff, Church Council Chairperson