

History Highlights

Of Westfort Baptist Church

Celebrating God's goodness to our church one decade at a time.

Issue #5

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1950 to 1959

From our church records

- 1950 - "Missionary meetings were held once a month. The young people took charge of services during the pastor's absence..."
- 1951 - total enrollment in Daily Vacation Bible School was 170, and the Pastor's salary was \$170 per month.
- 1952 - a balcony was added to the church auditorium to meet the needs of the growing Bible School, which had an average attendance of 189. A city bus was rented for transportation to and from Bible School.
- 1955 - the Pastor began a biweekly radio program on CKPR called "Evening Devotions."
- 1956 - a children's group called "J. I. M. Club" (Jesus Is Mine) was formed.
- 1959 - the church roll was updated. Twelve new members had been added during the year.

(Hymns continued)

No One Understands Like Jesus

The Saviour is Waiting

Fill My cup Lord



Everett Brown with his Sunday School class



DVBS 1956

Hymns written in that period

Surely Goodness & Mercy
His Name is Wonderful
Jesus is Coming Again
So Send I You

Local & World History

- Throughout the 50's, there were plebiscites, bitter discussions and threats of annexation between Port Arthur and Fort William.
- Dec. 12, 1955 – Port Arthur elects Eunice Wishart as its first woman mayor.
- 1958 – Fort William elects Catherine Seppela as its first woman mayor.
- 1956 – Lakehead College of Arts & Sciences (Lakehead University) was constructed on Oliver Rd.
- June 26, 1959 – the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway brought "salties" to our grain elevators and triggered a building boom.
- July 9, 1959 – the royal yacht, Britannia, anchored just outside the breakwater of the harbour. The Queen & Prince Philip came ashore for a visit.