

History Highlights

Of Westfort Baptist Church

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

Issue #7

July 2010

1970 to 1979



Pastor & Mrs. Bennett celebrate 40 years of marriage and 40 years of ministry at Westfort.

From our church records

- Mar 1975 - new hymnbooks called "Favorite Hymns of Praise" were purchased for \$3 each
- July 1975 - a bus was purchased for \$9400. Mr. Redfern Walker acted as assistant driver.
- Oct 1975 - special events took place from Oct 15-17 to mark the 65th anniversary of the church, and to retire the building debt by "burning the mortgage"
- 1977 - with a banquet and a gift, the church celebrated two 40th anniversaries of Pastor and Mrs. Bennett: 40 years of pastorate and 40 years of marriage
- 1977 - Pastor Ted Molyneaux was "engaged as youth pastor" and "would also assist in Sunday services and hopefully become our pastor at some future date"

Hymns written in that period

Be exalted O God
Behold What Manner of Love
Hallowed be the Name

There's Something About that Name
Worthy is The Lamb that Was slain
Because He Lives
Our God reigns
Freely, freely

Local History

- January 1, 1970 – The sign on the arch at Intercity flashed "Happy birthday Thunder Bay," church bells rang and the McGilvary Pipe Band played "Ode to Thunder Bay."
- June 27, 1971 – Premier Bill Davis landed by helicopter on the Point de Meuron site to turn the sod to begin a recreation of Old Fort William.
- 1971 – Electric trolley busses were phased out bringing to an end 80 years of the electric street transit system.
- July 3, 1973 – Mayor Walter Assef welcomed Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. They were greeted by 20,000 people as they officially opened Old Fort William and were entertained by the Male Choir.



Bill Warkentin, Pastor Bennett, Stuart Olsen & John Erickson burn the mortgage.
October 16, 1975