

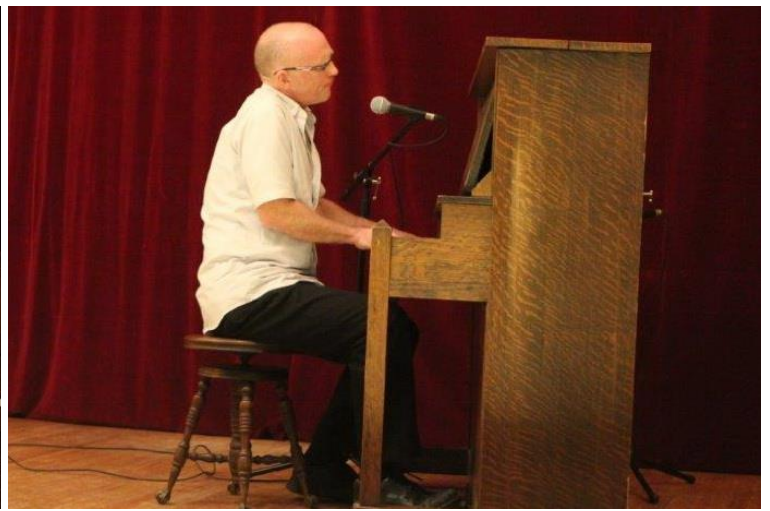
2016 “Chase Away the Winter Blues” Talent Show



Jan Graham, Wayne Nutbrown and Willie Fisk played Olde Tyme Country Music to the delight of the audience members who started the search for a seat in the Upper Gertrude Scott Hall at 6:45 pm on Saturday, January 30th. It was the 6th Edition of the Talent Show, “Chase Away the Winter Blues” and audience members and performers alike excitedly milled around awaiting the start of the show at 7:30 p.m. MC Rebecca Boire welcomed us and introduced the first musical acts: Zoë, Jaymin, Josiah and Kevin Lapointe. This was followed by the first of three comedy sketches created by the very talented Barbara Hedges Boire, entitled “Hat Trick” in which Church Treasurer, Jack Noble, accompanied by his wife, Frankie, conspires to further reduce the heating costs of the church by installing a UCW Men’s hand-knitted tuque with a pompom on the steeple. Darlene Kerr accompanied by Pierre Dufresne sang “For the Good Times” and “I hope you Dance” and then Pierre entertained us by singing “Drift Away” and “To Love Somebody” to his own accompaniment.



Bob Dylan’s “Make you Feel My Love” and Paul McCartney’s “O Darling” were superbly rendered vocally and musically by Jamie Crooks who received sustained applause for his efforts.



Near and dear to the funny-bones of the largely Lennoxville United Church audience were the sentiments expressed in the skit performed by the Waterville-ites' Piggery Summer Theatre group of Tami Spires, Mead Baldwin, Kevin Parnell, Ben Ryan and Renée Campeau. Thanks to their inventive humour it seems everyone from new PM Justin Trudeau to Kevin O'Leary has been considered – and rejected – for the position of Minister at Lennoxville United Church.



New-comer Margot Fredette wowed the audience with her vocal renditions of “Hallelujah” by Leonard Cohen and “Hotel California” by The Eagles. Following Margot to the stage were John Chesney, Larry Everett, Larry Boire and Sam Boire in a sketch entitled “Three Men and a Guy called Francis” which ended comically with the arrival of Pope Francis disguised as a CAA car repairman. Next up was Jono Townshend who soon had the room rockin’ with his renditions of “House of the Rising Sun” (vocals and guitar) and Jerry Lee Lewis’ “Great Balls of Fire” (vocals and piano).



The comedic trio of Rebecca, Barbara and Sam Boire then brought the house down with their Cockney-accented discussions of haircuts and career choices. Another brilliantly-written (by Barbara) and acted (by the three) comedy sketch which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.



The United Church Choir elegantly performed “The Sound of Silence” with musical accompaniment by Maryse Simard and choir direction by Jamie Crooks and then, in an about-face worthy of a vaudeville routine the men of the choir sprouted hats and enthusiastically belted out “Pretty Women” as the pretty women of the choir paraded back and forth across the stage in appropriately beguiling gowns and hats.



After over 1½ hours of amazing and diverse entertainment, Jono Townshend commandeered the microphone and piano and encouraged all the performers and members of the audience to close the show by joining him in a rousing rendition of the Beatles' hit "Hey Jude" following which Unit 6 UCW representative Frankie Noble presented congratulatory bouquets to Talent Show organizers Barbara Boire, Ann Weary and Nancy Suitor.

We are so grateful to Terry Lapointe and his sons for generously sharing their sound and lighting expertise, to Rebecca Boire for doing a superb job as MC and to all those who provided refreshments for our enjoyment in the Lower Hall after the concert. Thanks to everyone whose efforts and support enabled us to raise \$772.00 which was contributed to the Lennoxville United Church.

Text: Frankie Noble

Photos: Jack Noble

2016-01-30