



GLAD TIDINGS

*Glad Tidings has been referred to as,
"the arterial system that carries life to every part of the body."*

-Jean Stewart, A Lively Story.

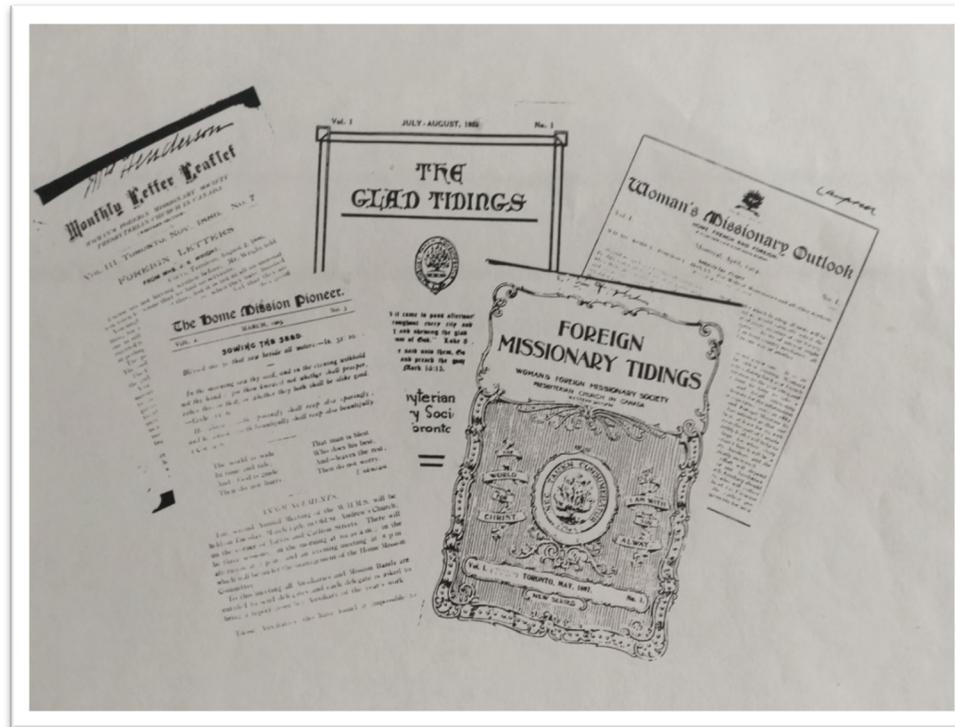
BEFORE GLAD TIDINGS:

- 1884 “The Monthly Letter Leaflet” (Women’s Foreign Mission Society)
- 1897 The “Leaflet” became “The Foreign Missionary Tidings”
 - Primarily, consisted of letters from India, and New Hebrides
 - In the beginning, was copied by hand by members of the board, and distributed to each auxiliary
 - By 1914, had a circulation of 27,000 per month!
- 1903 “Home Missionary Pioneer” (Women’s Home Missionary Society)
 - Free to every minister and missionary.
 - By 1914, had a circulation of 22,403
- 1904 “The Women’s Missionary Outlook” (Montreal Women’s Missionary Society)



-1914-

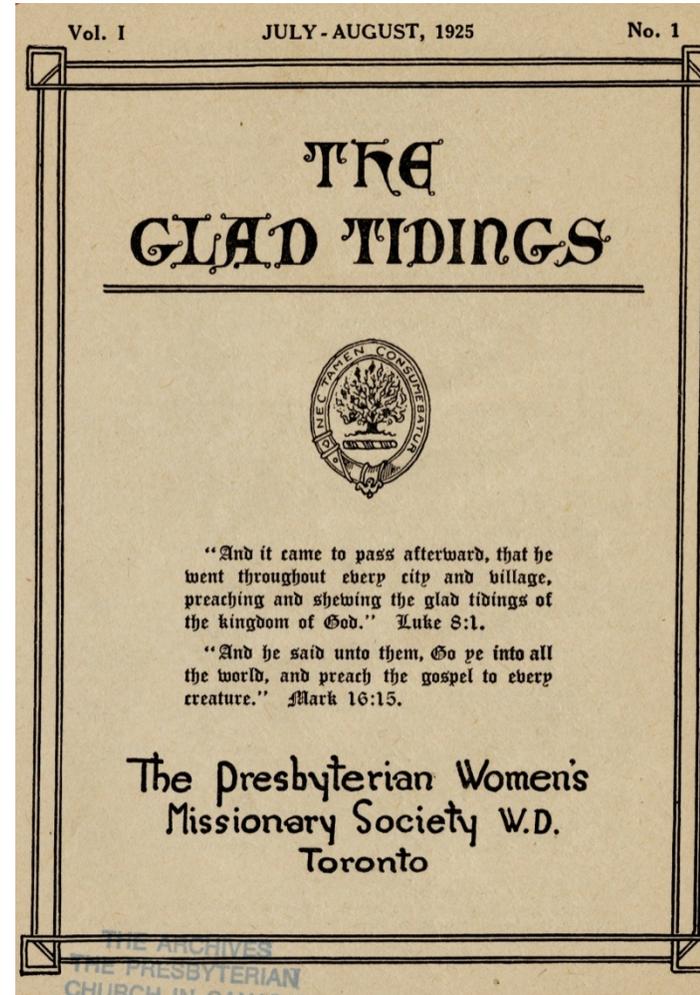
- “The Missionary Messenger”
 - The three magazines merged to create “The Missionary Messenger”
 - By 1924, there were 42,843 subscribers



-1925-

○ “GLAD TIDINGS”

- Before the first edition was out, it had 10,000 subscribers
 - By 1926, there were 19,000 subscribers
 - First Editor was Mamie C. G. Fraser
- The name, “Glad Tidings”, was chosen by Miss Olive Wagner, a member of Sloan Auxiliary of the WMS of Parkdale Presbyterian Church in Toronto. It was chosen from a number of suggestions.



-EDITORS-

1925-35: Mamie C.G. Fraser

1935-35: Mrs. J.S. Holman, Acting
Editor

1935-1948: Miss Helen MacKintosh

1949-1954: Mary E. Whale

1954: Edited by Editorial Committee

1954-1956: Philippa Gould

1956-1967: Leeta J. Cherry

1967-1972: Helen Proudfoot

1972-1975: Laura Plummer

Our New Editor

Helen C. Proudfoot



It is with pleasure that we announce the appointment of Miss Helen Proudfoot as Editor of *The Glad Tidings*. A native of Nova Scotia, Miss Proudfoot graduated from Acadia University with a B.A. degree and a Diploma in Secretarial Science. Through the influence of Dr. E. A. Thomson she came to Toronto in 1947 to work in the Church offices where she gained valuable knowledge and experience in many phases of the church's work. In 1956 she went to the Presbyterian Record as Editorial Assistant where she remained until 1960 when she became Editor of a Company publication in the Insurance field. A member of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Toronto, she is active in Christian Education. For relaxation, among other things, she enjoys lawn bowling and golf. Miss Proudfoot is well qualified for this position. We wish her well and assure her of our interest and support.

(Mrs. I. G. Sinclair)

MARCH, 1967

3



-EDITORS-

1975-1975: Helen C. Young, Temporary Editor

1975-1976: May Nutt (and Adult Secretary)

1976-1979: Kathleen Hummelen (and Adult Programme Secretary)

1980-2004: L. June Stevenson

2005-2006: Holly Wilson

2006-2006: Sonya Henderson, Temporary Editor

2007-2020: Colleen Wood

2009-2009: Heather Jones, Temporary Editor

Editor—Glad Tidings

Mrs. L. June Stevenson was appointed to the position of Editor with some responsibilities in programming effective September 1, 1980.

Mrs. Stevenson is a graduate of St. Lawrence High School, Cornwall, Ontario, has her Permanent Elementary School Teachers Certificate and a certificate from the Famous Writers School Home Study Course.

In the last five years Mrs. Stevenson has been employed part-time at the Dellcrest Children's Centre, Downsview, Ontario as a Community Health Consultant.

Articles written by Mrs. Stevenson have appeared in the Globe and Mail, Grade Teacher, Children's House Magazine and the Canadian Guider.

She is a member of Thornhill Presbyterian Church.



THROUGH THE DECADES...

JULY AUGUST 1925

A Message from Our President: And what of work to do? Truly our hearts burned within us as plea after plea reached us from fields new and old or a needy world at the door. Who is equal to these things? As gifts come into the Treasury some of these doors can be entered; but a shadow lies on our hearts that alas! some might be regretfully closed... Each girl and woman is His instrument of destiny. Let us use our God-given power.

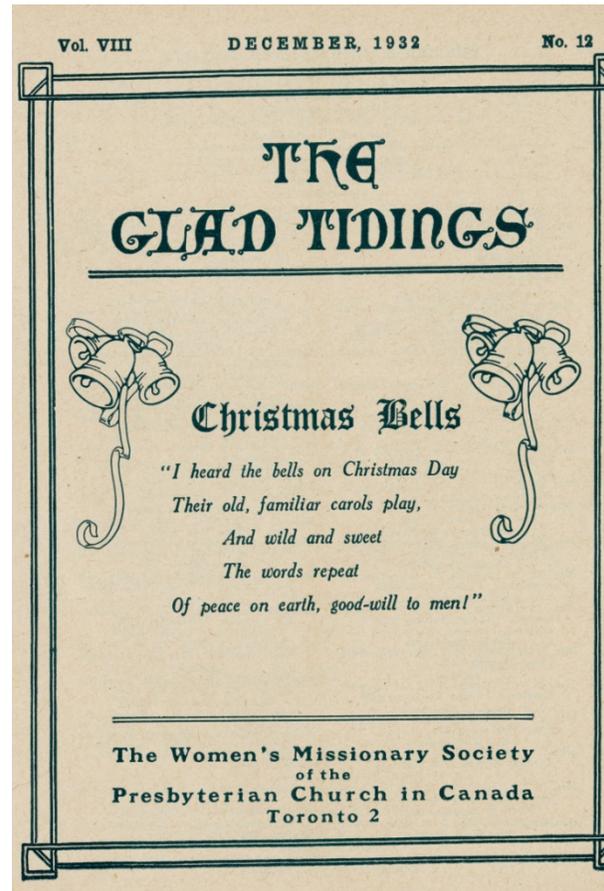


THROUGH THE DECADES...

January 1933

Why Take Glad Tidings?

If you have to retrench why begin with something as vital as the WMS magazine? If you wish to maintain your health you cut out everything but the food essentials, so, if you would keep the missionary work of the Church strong and unimpaired, you will not cut out the information which is necessary to her life.



April 1935

Why Not Feminize Mission Study

...It will never be necessary for us to make a place for missionary education in our churches; it already has its place in the heart of every woman. And if we women work one hundred percent strong, the work will "go over" one hundred percent effectual...



THROUGH THE DECADES...

The Glad Tidings

Vol. XX

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 1944

No. 9

Daily Prayer

O God, the Father of us all, Who hast made of one blood all nations of men, mercifully receive the prayers that we offer for our anxious and troubled world.

Send Thy light into our darkness and guide the nations as one family into the ways of peace.

Take away all prejudice, hatred and fear.

Give grace to all who serve and suffer because of war.

Strengthen in us the will to understand one another, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us.

To those who by their counsels lead the peoples of the earth grant a right judgment, that so through them and us Thy will be done.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



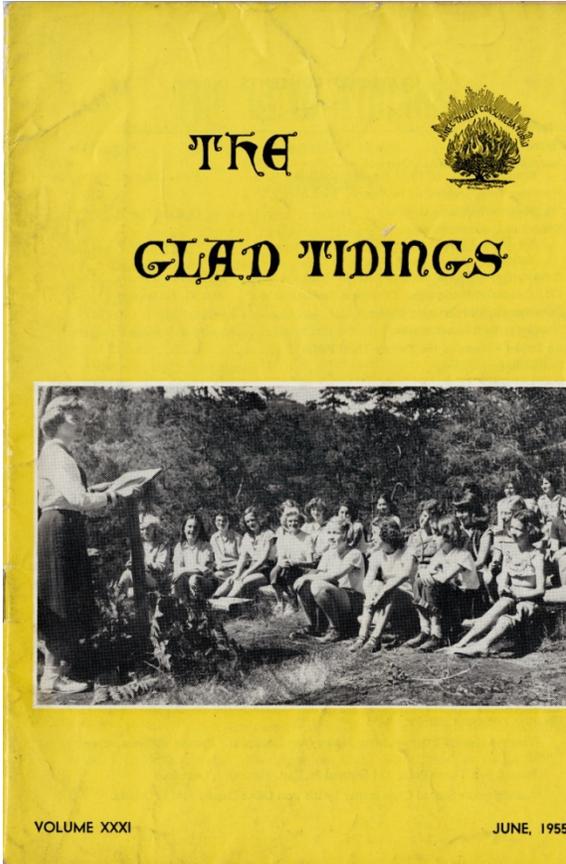
THROUGH THE DECADES...

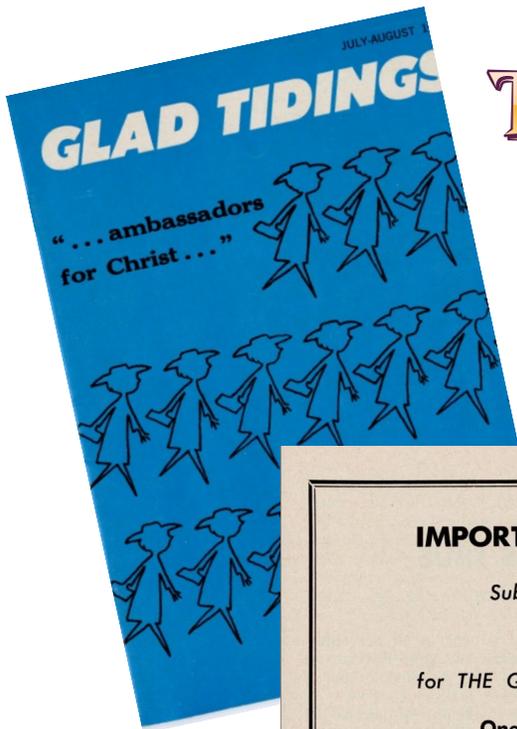
September 1950, Mrs. Margaret McDonald

When my husband asked me, in 1934, if I would be willing to leave our Saskatchewan home, and go to his homestead in Peace River, I instantly thought, how wonderful to make a home...where there would be no meetings to attend. I was then President of the Whitewood Auxiliary... I came to Blueberry Mountain and made our home.

But I found that a lifetime member of the Missionary Society, cannot throw off responsibility so easily, and as I thought of my Mother, who had been in the work in Toronto from its beginning, and had in 1886 organized the Brandon Presbyterial, I felt ashamed. So when the World Day or Prayer came I took Glad Tidings and walked to my nearest neighbour's house, where she, her daughters and I, kept with the rest of the world our hour of prayer.

The next year nearly all the women of the settlement came to my house for the meeting and at the close we organized our Auxiliary...





THROUGH THE DECADES...

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Subscribe or Renew

NOW

for *THE GLAD TIDINGS* for 1961

One Dollar per Year

*a fraction over nine cents per copy
delivered to your door!*

Information, Inspiration, Programme Planning;
News about Christian work everywhere;
About what our own W.M.S. is doing
at home and Overseas
and
about our own missionaries and their work.

Where can you read so much — for so little?

THE GLAD TIDINGS
is well worth looking into
reading regularly
talking about
sending for gifts
using as a monthly Visitor to Shut-in Friends!

It is your **own** magazine—the official magazine of the Women's
Missionary Society (W.D.) of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Support it—make use of it—and be proud of it.

How many names can **you** add to the Subscription Lists for 1961?

The Printed Word

By Jean Stewart

As you pick up your attractive issue of the Glad Tidings this month, with its colourful cover and well-illustrated inside features, pause for a few minutes and think back over the history of this magazine which is so much a part of the WMS for all of us. Why do we have a magazine? Where did it come from? What are its origins in the 100-year history of the Women's Missionary Society, WD, in Canada?

...With the split in the WMS operations at Church Union in 1925, the Missionary Messenger passed to the United Church. The continuing Presbyterian WMS at once took steps to begin a new magazine to continue the fine old tradition. The Messenger's editor, Miss Mamie Fraser, continued as editor of Glad Tidings... (Continued...)





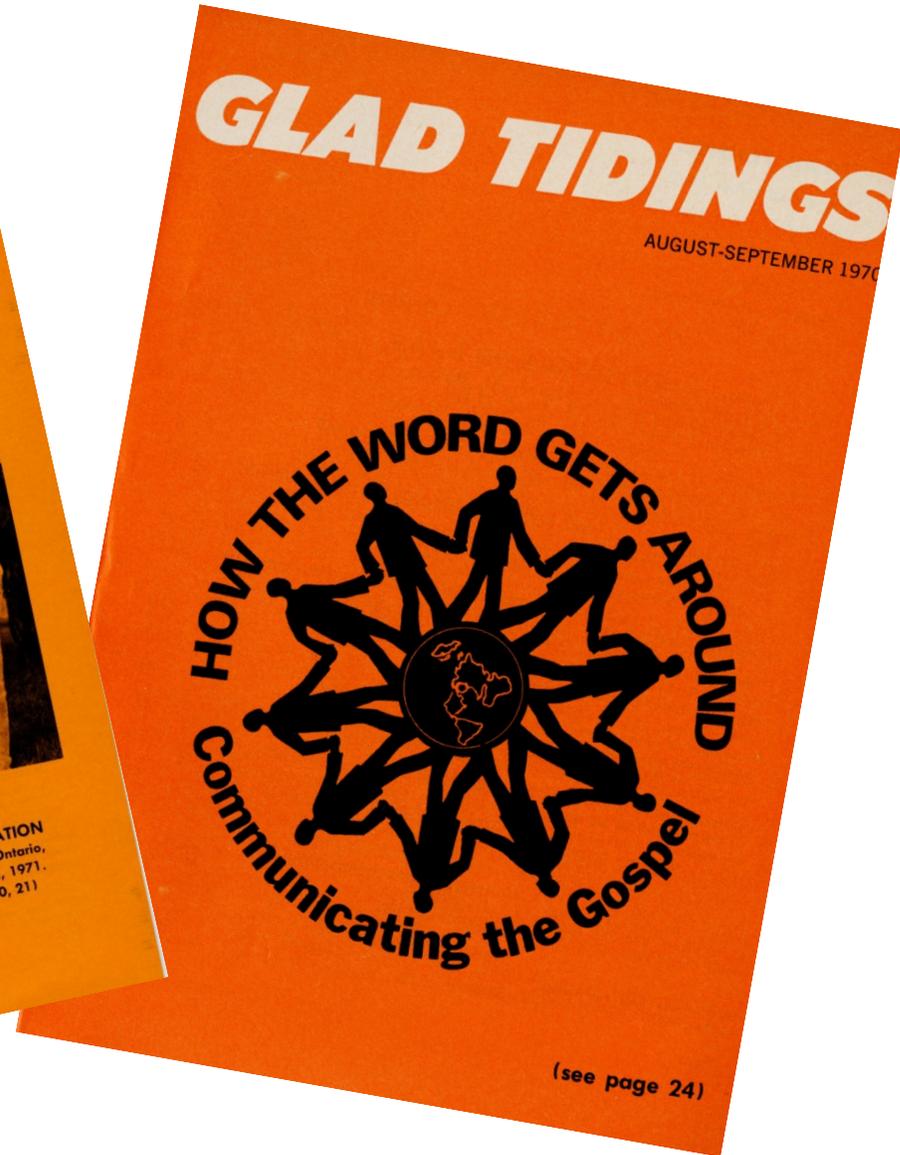
THROUGH THE DECADES...

The yellowed copies of the early missionary magazines make fascinating reading. Indeed they provide a glimpse into the saga of history – in Canada and in the world mission. Here, for example, is Lucy Baker, pioneer woman missionary to the Prince Albert writing in July 1885 of the Riel Rebellion: “After the battle of Duck Lake the police and volunteers retreated to Prince Albert and fortified it. All the settlers within a radius of 20 miles rushed for their lives into the mission. Every house was crowded with women and children; the manse was turned into a fort...I gave my house for a hospital, and devoted all my time to cooking for the sick and wounded...I fell worn out, and long for a rest.”

Who can estimate the tremendous influences of these missionary magazines over nearly 90 years? Surely today, as we read our Glad Tidings, we are sharing in a long and important heritage in the development of missionary work and education among the women of our church.



THROUGH THE DECADES...



THROUGH THE DECADES...

January 1974 Editorial, Laura Plummer

...That the magazine should be an effective education tool is never doubted. So, I ask questions like, “Who are we trying to reach?” and “Are we reaching them?”

We are trying to interest people (men and women) throughout the whole church in the on-going mission story. The evidence is, however, that the magazine, a main source of mission information, has an almost totally private readership, that readership being found mainly within WMS groups...

Does the magazine need a fresh new start for everyone to read? We want to establish a new image for the magazine, that image saying, “This is a magazine for everyone, and what it has to say is in the now and is about the happenings of today.”

To do that, should the name of the magazine be changed?

...Once again, we invite the readers to participate in making this decision, discussing it in your groups, presbyterials, and synodicals...With so many people thinking about it, the right decision is sure to emerge!



THROUGH THE DECADES...

May 1988 Written in Love, June Stevenson

Glad Tidings has entered the electronic age. With the February issue began the process of using “desktop publishing.” This means that virtually everything in the magazine can now be done in the office, except photographs. Formerly, all the material was sent out for typesetting and layout. Our new equipment allows us much more freedom and flexibility.

...The amazing thing about this equipment – so we were told in the sales pitch – is that it will do everything except make the coffee! ...And, of course, everything is done in an instant.

We live in a world where instant is a password....I worry about the world our children are growing up in. Their attitude is whatever they want, they can get it – and right away.

...In our fast-paced push-button world of microwave ovens and last-digit redials, we are quickly becoming desensitized to the finer things in life... Most of the things in life are not produced in an instant...



THROUGH THE DECADES...

June 1999:
Not so Frail
as Summer's
Flowers!

By June
Stevenson



Inside the conference hall, the first warm days of Spring began to make the delegates uncomfortable until the air conditioning finally kicked in. Outside, the scourge of gardeners, the lowly dandelion was already taking over the lawns of Crieff Hills, bold as ever and just as obnoxious.

...Rev Suh Jungsoon, newly arrived from Japan, commented on the dandelions. They are the same in Japan, she said. They were a fitting symbol to the work of the WMS, gathered for its Annual Council Meeting. Like the dandelions, she observed, women are strong. Their work spreads and survives everywhere...



REFLECTION, COLLEEN WOOD

Most of you know, I am a PK – a preacher’s kid. As a child, I would often visit women, many WMS members, with my Mom. I loved visiting and their hearing stories. They would often have interesting knick knacks that I would see and sometimes play with, and most visits included a sweet snack. As the editor of Glad Tidings, I have continued to love hearing stories of the women of the WMS and The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Likely a favourite part of the magazine for me are the stories of the mission staff. As a child, we hosted a few missionaries when they were home, and wow, their stories. Reading them in Glad Tidings, they still come alive to me. And, having the opportunity to visit India with the WMS was incredible. Pauline Brown is an inspiration, and our partners in India, and around the world, are beautiful examples of Christ in this world.

It has been a joy to serve the WMS, and I wish you all the best as you look to continuing to serve God through prayer, study, service, and fellowship. Finally, a big thank you to all who have written for Glad Tidings, prayed for me, journeyed with me, and supported me as your editor. And of course, a big thank you to Sarah and Alexis, and to Katherine for all their work on Glad Tidings and for the WMS.





**There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.
Philippians 1:6, The Message**

