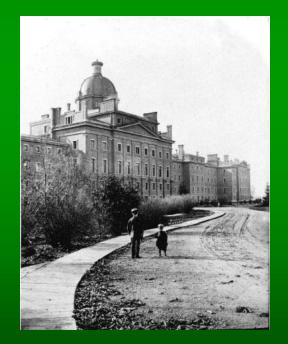
1954 - formation of Toronto Japanese United Church Nisei Congregation

The photo on the left is the only photo I know of that exists for the worship service at Queen Street United Church, which was located at 765 Queen Street West. It now an art studio and bicycle community centre. Down the street at 999 Queen St is the former mental hospital (now CAMH, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health). Brian remembers seeing the dome of the Queen Street mental health centre at the foot of Ossington and Queen. On the way home, I would be in the back seat of the car looking out the back, while my father was driving north on Ossington. I would see the dome recede in the horizon as we drove home.



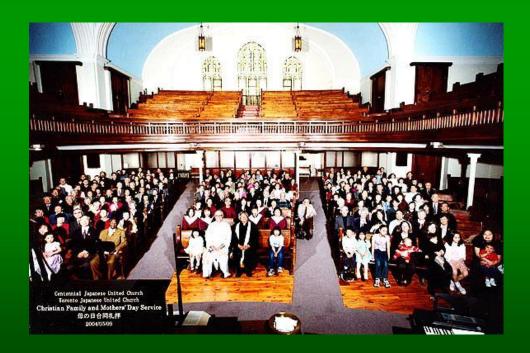
Queen Street United Church circa 1955



Queen Street Mental Health Centre

1957 - move location to the building of Centennial United Church, 701 Dovercourt Road

Centennial United Church invited TJUC Issei and Nisei congregations to move to their building at 701 Dovercourt Road, just south of Bloor. The photo on the left shows the original sanctuary which could hold close to 500 people. At the right is a sketch of the church. We think it was drawn by Raymond Moriyama





701 Dovercourt Main Chapel

701 Dovercourt exterior

1958 - completion of the new Upper Chapel for the Nisei Congregation

Since two congregations had moved into 701 Dovercourt, the lower chapel housed the service for the Isseis, a second chapel was built for the Niseis. The completion of the new Upper Chapel for the Nisei Congregation was a result of the fund drive which produced a catacomb-like space designed by Raymond Moriyama.



701 Dovercourt Upper Chapel designed by Raymond Moriyama





Original location of the dome

The Bazaar

We have had annual bazaars in October for as long as I can remember. A huge project by church members which netted thousands of dollars to help the church budget. My memories are of the tasty bowls of udon and my father, Sam Kai, boiling water just outside the church using dozens of kettles heated by camping stoves.





Hundreds of bowls of udon served each year

Church picnics

Church picnics - another traditional event at the end of June. Some of the locations where several hundred people gathered for worship, lunch, baseball and races are: Cedar Glen, Camp Koyu, Bruce's Mill and Bronte Park.





Fun and games

Pot luck lunch

Concerts

There used to be an annual concert in May called Satsuki Matsuri Singing, dancing and skits for a pleasant Saturday evening packed the Friendship centre at 701 Dovercourt. The photo on the left is of the debut of the Japanese Beatles who mimed to the music of the Beatles in 1964. The photo on the right is of the play called The Strange Transformation of Rev Morisake, a fund raiser for the yet to be built Momiji Seniors Centre now on Kingston Road in Scarborough





Japanese Beatles 1964

Momiji Play 1990

Sunday School and Youth Groups

Sunday School and Youth Groups - At its height, the Sunday School numbered close to 200 students. The photo on the right shows the number of teachers required for such a large Sunday School. On the left are the CGIT (Canadian Girls in Training). Other groups were Explorers, Tyros and Sigma-C.



CGIT

Sunday School Teachers circa 1978

Camp Koyu

In the 1950's, the young Niseis of the church used the then called Camp Scugog (on Lake Scugog) for camps and retreats. In the 1970's the church bought the property for summer camps, like boys camp pictured on the left.



Boys Camp 1976

Vietnamese Refugees

In 1979, Rev George Tomita challenged the board to help the then called boat people. We ended up sponsoring five boys who have all now married, with children and are contributing members of society who we meet for dinner once a year.





Annual Dinner 2013

Annual Dinner 2009

1986 Amalgamation with Centennial to form CJUC

The amalgamation with Centennial United Church to form CJUC. As the Centennial United Church membership was dwindling, it and TJUC Nisei, amalgamated to form CJUC. On the left are Kaz Shikaze, clerk of session for CJUC, Rev Seiichi Ariga minister of CJUC and Margaret Livey, long time member of Centennial. On the right is the amalgamation service in 1986





Kaz Shikaze, Rev Ariga, Margaret Livey

Amalgamation Service 1986

2006 - move to Lansing United Church

As expenses were increasing to maintain the 100 year old church building at 701 Dovercourt, a decision was made to move to Lansing United at Yonge and 401. On the left is the interior of Lansing United and on the right is the former Lansing organist, Bill Estey.





Lansing United chapel

Organist Bill Estey

2011 - move to OYM

2011 - As Lansing decided to renovate, CJUC decided to move to Oriole York Mills UC. You know the story that OYM needed a minister and CJUC needed a space. On the right is one of the first combined CJUC/OYM services. Carol MacLean provided much leadership and friendliness to assist with this new situation.



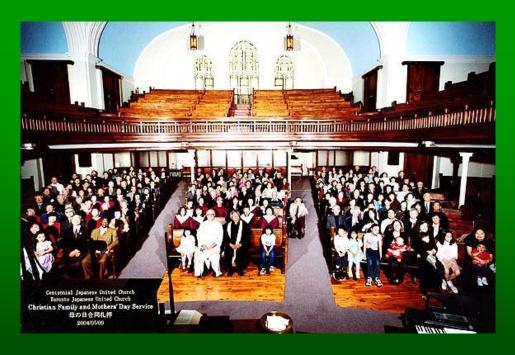


Carol MacLean

OYM chapel

2012 - amalgamation of TJUC

With the decline of the membership of TJUC the amalgamation of TJUC and CJUC reversed the roles of the early 1950's when the Isseis helped the Niseis to form its own church





TJUC chapel 2004

The hand bells

2014 - A legacy to cherish

Centennial-Japanese United Church ends and a new beginning starts at Bayview United Church.



Dome at 701 Dovercourt – installed 1958