

ST JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, BLACKSTOCK

Our former rector, the Reverend Mary Bell-Plouffe, introduced the congregation of St John's, Blackstock to the discipline of Biblical Storytelling about four years ago and it has been an overwhelming success in our church. Bible readings have become Bible stories achieving really focused attention from the congregation. The comment we hear most often is: I have heard that passage read so many times and this is the first time that I *really* heard it.

We try to be true to the words, in most instances The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, but above all be true to the meaning of the story. We are following a valid Biblical tradition, for in the beginning all these stories were told before finally being written down.

We have formed a story telling group, the Blackstock Biblical Storytellers, and we meet once a month to plan our next stories (for the most part we stick with the common lectionary) and to practise in front of each other.

If you are interested we would be very willing to come to your church at any time and demonstrate what we have learnt. We would love to encourage other churches to join us in retelling the ageless stories and would be delighted to welcome new members into our storytelling group. You can contact Susan van Tijn at 905-263-4620 or Karin Dieter at her restaurant Keri-Jo's on Old Scugog Street 905-263-2410.