



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**



**Woodlawn United Church Annual Report 2021**  
*Together We Are Stronger In Faith*



*As we reflect on all that we've accomplished in the past year, despite the continued grip of Covid 19, we are grateful to you for your kindness and generosity of time, talent, and treasures. You are a vital part of the operations of Woodlawn United Church community. May God richly bless you and your family. We look forward to a year of being together in person, in spirit, in worship, in 2022. We hope you enjoy the following reports.*

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- Please note that during 2021 a few of our groups were unable to meet due to Covid 19, and therefore there will not be a report for that group in this year's report.





## REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES IN MEMORIAM 2021



NAME	DATE OF DEATH
Rita Erskine	February 8, 2021
Joseph Baxter	February 8, 2021
Olvia Vincent	February 14, 2021
Arthur Belyea	February 16, 2021
Betty Grandy	March 2, 2021
Donald Trider	March 5, 2021
George MacLeod	March 8, 2021
Frank Moore	March 30, 2021
Herbert Martin	April 25, 2021
David Cushing	April 28, 2021
Ray Gill	May 2, 2021
Malcolm Morash	May 18, 2021
Herbert "Bert" Dickey	May 30, 2021
Ronald Turner	June 18, 2021
Gwendolyn Crawford	June 21, 2021
Henry Wasylasko	June 30, 2021
Miles Manak	July 8, 2021
Lois Aisthorpe	July 9, 2021
Charlotte LeGrow	July 15, 2021
Doris Lockhart	August 5, 2021
Guy Hermanson	August 30, 2021
Deborah Story	September 5, 2021
Phyllis Atwood	September 11, 2021
Monica O'Neill-Adams	October 5, 2021
Lillian McKenna	October 7, 2021
Thomas Inkpen	October 31, 2021
Robert Borden	November 25, 2021
Helena Searle	December 3, 2021
Marjorie Moore	December 12, 2021
David MacKenzie	December 27, 2021





## MINUTES FROM MAY 30, 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*In light of the Covid-19 pandemic and ensuring WUC follows the recommendations of our federal, provincial, and municipal leadership to refrain from public gatherings and meetings, Paul Whyte and Barry Zwicker coordinated a ZOOM video conference for this Annual General meeting.*

**CONSTITUTION OF THE MEETING** – Barry Zwicker, Co-Chair of Council, constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the only true head of the church and declared a quorum was present on-line.

Barry provided a brief description of the protocols to be followed during the virtual meeting and thanked Paul Whyte for coordinating the on-line Zoom meeting and voting collection. The process to be followed regarding voting was that an individual from each participating household would respond to an on-line question and the responses would be tallied electronically and recorded.

Barry invited all households to participate by responding in ‘how many individuals in your household are participating in this virtual meeting’. The electronic response indicated 89 individuals were participating.

**APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND SECRETARY** - On motion by Keith Musselman, seconded by Fay Gunter, Barry Zwicker was nominated to serve as Chair and Bob Watt was nominated to serve as Secretary of 2021 Annual General Meeting. The motion was approved by electronic response from the participating households.

**MOTION TO EXTEND PRIVILEGES** - The chair called for an agreement to extend voting privileges to all adherents on all matters to come before the 2021 AGM. Agreement was received electronically from all participating households.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Barry, as chair, requested all participating households to indicate electronically their acceptance of the agenda for the 2021 Annual General Meeting as circulated. Acceptance received.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2019 AGM** – Barry requested approval of the minutes of the 2020 AGM (held on February 23rd, 2020) as presented in the circulated Annual Report be accepted. Acceptance received.

**APPROVAL OF 2020 ANNUAL REPORT** – Barry requested approval of all the printed reports contained in the 2020 Annual Report as circulated, with the exception of the Nominating Report and the Financial Report. By motion Helen Dixon, Chair of M&P, requested a change to the M&P Report. The change requested was that the surnames be added to Rev. Philip, Rev. Mary Lynne and Shannon’s names in paragraph 4 & 6 of the M&P Report. Acceptance received.



**IN MEMORIAM** - Rev Mary Lynne Whyte was invited to read the names of individuals who had participated in the life and work of Woodlawn United Church and have passed away during 2020. Rev Mary Lynne read the following names in loving memory, lit the Christ candle and called for a moment of silent prayer.

Nila Harvey	Albert Sparks	Frank Baker	Kelly Watson-Schutz
Carleton Tait	Nickie Armsworthy	Luann Short	Paul Dalrymple
Pearl Myers	St. Clair Bezanson	Gail Smith	Maude Welsh
Raymond Miller	Carl Armsworthy	William Parker	Jenny Johnston
Mona Tinkham	Carolyn Pettipas	Vivian Bremner	Kelly Currie
Harold Sinclair	Nino Venturini	Luc Lemieux	Jeannie Young
Betty Sweet	Rhoda Borden	Vivian Hill	Joyce Taylor
Randy Murray	Gloria Rutledge	Richard Osborne	

**TRANSITION TEAM RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE TRANSITION MINISTER** – Barry invited Shirley MacLeod, a member of the Transition Team, to address the meeting. Shirley introduced the other members of Woodlawn United who comprise the Woodlawn United Church Transition Team: Emily Masse, Jerry Jackson, Teri Giannou. Shirley also introduced Elaine Grey, Rev. Susan Chisolm and David Hewitt, all of who represent Region 15. Shirley requested Jerry Jackson to highlight some of the duties and expectations of Transition Team. Shirley MacLeod, seconded by Teri Giannou made the following motion: *“We the congregation of Woodlawn United Church approve the appointment of Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner to fill the position of Transition Minister as per the agreed terms, effective June 1st, 2021 for a period of two years with the option of extending the appointment if the need arises”* Prior to voting electronically, Shirley requested Emily Masse to present the Terms of Appointment. The terms were presented virtually for all participants to review. Barry opened the meeting to discussion. It was noted that Council’s recommendation did not stipulate a minimum of two years and David Hewitt (Region 15) clarified that any appointment can be terminated with a ninety (90) day notice. The motion, as presented was accepted electronically. Barry then requested and received approval that, rather than amend the motion, that it be understood that, as stated by David Hewitt, the appointment could be ended earlier with a ninety (90) day notice. Agreement received by ‘show of hands’.

**RECRUITMENT & NOMINATIONS REPORT** – Barry presented the Nominations Report (following) submitted by Adelia Holloway for the year 2021. Barry requested acceptance of the Nominating Report with the approval to allow Council to fill vacancies between now and the next scheduled AGM. Acceptance received electronically.



<b>WUC NOMINATIONS 2021</b>		
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>CO-CHAIR</b>	<b>CO-CHAIR</b>
Council	Barry Zwicker	Fay Gunter
Administration & Management	Keith Musselman	(Vacant)
Ministry & Personnel	Helen Dixon	Cathy Kay
Community Care	Jerry Jackson	Dodie Covert
Communications	Paul Whyte	(Vacant)
Program	Brian Moors	(Vacant)
Stewardship	Kelly MacNeil	Fred Evans
Trustees	Jim Allen	(Vacant)

Sustainability (on hold)

Region 15 Representatives (4) Helen Dixon, Kelly MacNeil, Fay Gunter, Barry Zwicker

**TRUSTEES: Nominations for New Membership**

Kim Mitchell

Gerald Settle

Maarten Kramers

**2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS PRESENTED IN THE 2020 ANNUAL REPORT** – Barry requested acceptance of the Financial Statements for the year 2020 as presented in the Annual Report. Acceptance received electronically.

**2021 BUDGET AS PRESENTED BY A&M AND RECOMMENDED BY COUNCIL** – Barry reminded the meeting that the budget had been circulated via email and the congregation had been invited to provide questions, concerns, clarification etc.. The only question received concerned the Emergency Wage Subsidy for 2021 and the fact that no amount was shown in the budget. Barry & Ivan explained that the federal approval for the subsidy was not received until after the budget had been approved by council. Ivan explained that the expected subsidy for 2021 will be less than was received during 2020. Barry also confirmed that the budget allowed for the costs associated with the just approved Transition Minister position. Barry presented the following motion: *“Moved by Keith Musselman, seconded by Ivan Richardson that the 2021 Budget be approved as circulated”*. Acceptance received electronically.

**MISSION AND SERVICE TARGET** – Barry presented the following motion: *“Moved by Ivan Richardson and seconded by Mary Osborne that the target for Woodlawn United Church contribution to Mission & Service be set at sixty thousand (60,000.00) dollars for the year 2021’*. Acceptance received electronically.

**COURTESIES** – Barry requested Lisa Allen to present ‘courtesies’ on behalf of the congregation. In her ‘thank you’ Lisa included all the staff; Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Rev. Dale Skinner and Katie Logan, Shelley Clee and Ruth Boutilier from the office and Gus



Webb, the ushers, volunteers from A&M, Trustees, Youth Committee, Pastoral Care, the Tech team, Food Bank, the Community of Faith Profile and the Transition Teams and for those who have served and resigned during the year Peter Wood, Kathy and Dennis Dean and Allan Eddy. Lisa reminded us, that as we move forward all are needed and all have a part to play in the future of Woodlawn United Church.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** – Prior to Barry thanking all for their participation in this unusual method of holding the Annual General Meeting, Brian Moors offered a congratulatory ‘Happy Birthday’ to Ralph Sams on his 89th birthday. Barry called for adjournment and wished all to stay safe and looked forward to the time when we would be able to gather again for worship, together, in the sanctuary. Ray DeRoche moved adjournment and Barry declared the 2021 Annual General Meeting closed.

Submitted: J. Robert Watt, Barry Zwicker  
Secretary Chair  
Attachment a – Attendance Record Via Zoom

#### **Annual General Meeting – May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Jean Adams	Teri Giannou	Kelly MacNeil	Ralph Sams
Jim Allen	Janet Gill	Nell Mallett	Gerald Settle
Nancy Allen	Bob Goodwin	Emily Masse	Murdena Skinner
Lisa Allen	Kerri Graham	Vicky May	Robert Skinner
Terry Barro	Nancy Grant	Ian McKay	Ruby Stewart
Ruth Boutilier	Elaine Grey	Kevin McTaggart	Jennifer Taylor
Faye Charlebois	Fay Gunter	Joan Mikkelsen	Darrell Taylor
Rev. Susan Chisholm	Gerry Gunter	Kim Mitchell	Bob Watt
Pat Connell	John Harlow	Donna Moore	Carol Weare
Dorothy Covert	Helen Henderson	Brian Moors	John Weare
Jane Cushing	David Hewitt	Myrna Morash	Gus Webb
Sue Cuthbertson	Adelia Holloway	Murdock Morrison	Evelyn Webber
Jonathan Dean	Jerry Jackson	Keith Musselman	Carol White
Ray DeRoche	Eva Jenkins	Karen Nauffs	Paul Whyte
Joyce Dillman	Catherine Kay	Belle Nicholson	Laurie White
Fred Dixon	Aruna Khan	Betty Nickerson	Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte
Helen Dixon	Donna Kramers	Ernie Nickerson	Beverly Wicks
Judy Dupuis	Maarten Kramers	Betty Osborne	Laura-Jean Williamson
Allan Eddy	Shirley Lacey	Betty Perkins	Maureen Woods
Alan Ellis	Pauline Levy	Shirley Pond	Peter Woods
Mona Ellis	Bob Lindsay	Carolyn Reid	Barry Zwicker
Fran Essex	Dorothy Lindsey	Ivan Richardson	Shirley Zwicker
Fred Evans	Katie Logan	Sheila Richardson	
Jim Farmer	Beverly Lynch	June Rigden	
Shirley Fraser	Shirley MacLeod	Dorothy Sams	



## MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte

2021 was another year of learning to cope and adapt to unusual circumstances due to the Covid-19 global pandemic. As per usual, ministers are always involved in Sunday worship, funerals, pastoral care, committee meetings, and regional responsibilities. The good news is that Woodlawn welcomed Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner to the ministerial team in February, which reduced my responsibilities in the area of preaching and leading worship. This enabled me to focus more on pastoral care. We also welcomed Maggie Healy in September who focused on our youth.

The **Pastoral Care Team** is a wonderful group of people who have answered the call to minister to those who are in hospital or who are shut in to their homes. I thank them all very much for their dedicated efforts to reach out to our hospitalized or shut-in members, usually by phone or by sending cards due to the Covid-19 reality we continued to experience in 2021.

The worship services Woodlawn is responsible for at **Oakwood Terrace and Ocean View Manor** were not allowed to take place in 2021 due to the ongoing variants of Covid-19 making it impossible to connect in person. We look forward to resuming these worship services at some point in the future, hopefully when the Omicron wave is over. It will be wonderful to connect in person once again with our Woodlawn residents at Oakwood and Ocean View.

Spending time each Thursday morning, when Covid allowed, over at the Heritage Centre talking to **Food Bank** participants and volunteers was a great way to do community pastoral care. It's a form of pastoral outreach for Woodlawn that extends beyond our own congregation. It's also a great time to check in with the UCW members who operate the **Dun-Gen**, although the Coronavirus had shut the Dun-Gen down a few times in 2021 so it was not as easy to connect with them face-to-face. However, both the East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank and the Dun-Gen are run by dedicated volunteers and I offer them my warmest thanks for the ministry they offer to the surrounding Woodlawn community. Carol White and Kim Mitchell look after our **Funeral Grief Booklet Ministry** and I'd like to thank them for making sure Woodlawn people received the grief booklets, if they desired them, during their time of grief. However, the grief booklets are much more difficult to purchase at this time, so if anyone has extras at home they are not using, we'd be very happy to have them back so they can be reused. If you could drop them off at the church office with Carol White's name on the envelope, that would be most appreciated. Kim and Carol also make pastoral phone calls to grieving people to check up on them. I'd like to thank Carol and Kim for their ministry which is very much appreciated.

Grief groups offer pastoral care in a different way. Rev. Dale led a **Grief Group** on Tuesday evenings from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>, based on the book, "Experiencing Grief" by H. Norman Wright. It was well attended. On Wednesday evening, December 1<sup>st</sup>, Rev. Dale





offered a worship service of Healing and Hope. We are thankful for his leadership and caring.

Another form of pastoral care is looked after by Nancy Allen who oversees the **Prayer Shawl Ministry**. There are many Woodlawn people who knit/crochet prayer shawls as they pray for the recipient. After they are finished, the prayer shawls are blessed during a livestreamed worship service, or individually, as the need arises. Thank you to Nancy Allen and all the volunteers who created prayer shawls this past year. They are very much appreciated by the recipients and their families. As well, thank you to those who donated yarn, or money towards the purchase of yarn, which was also much appreciated. The **Pastoral Phone Ministry**, which began in January, is overseen by Ralph Sams and I thank him for his time and efforts over the past year. This important ministry has helped Woodlawn keep in touch with many of our congregants during the ongoing global pandemic. My sincere thanks to Ralph, to each of the volunteer callers, and to Bob Watt who has been extremely helpful in organizing lists.

The **Caring Card Ministry** team was formed in March of 2021 and fulfilled a very important pastoral care role in our Woodlawn faith community this past year. They ministered to others by sending lovely cards with a hand written note. This helped Woodlawn to stay connected to people during the pandemic. I would like to thank the volunteers who dedicated so much time and effort to reach out to Woodlawn people through this very unique and caring way.

**Region work** for myself consisted of being on the board of the 'association of United Church Clergy' (aUCC) who met almost monthly for two hour meetings on Zoom. The aUCC, in a way, replaces what clergy used to have when Presbytery was a part of our governing system. The aUCC is based on four pillars: Community, Advocacy, Renewal, and Education (CARE). Currently, I'm the Pillar Lead for Renewal.

**My thanks** to the many lay people who have done amazing volunteer work this past year chairing/working on committees, helping with worship (singers, tech, ushers, and readers), working in outreach, especially at Christmas, Food Bank, Dun-Gen, Pastoral Care, and Council. The church runs smoothly because there are so many excellent volunteers and I'd like to thank you for your dedication and efforts in everything you do. Covid-19 has made everything more difficult, but we have managed to find other ways to do ministry. We've adapted very well.

Thank you to the wonderful staff here at Woodlawn. It is a privilege and an honour to work with you in your various roles to make Woodlawn a wonderful mission-and-ministry-oriented church. Thank you Shelley, Ruth, Gus, June, and Maggie for your part in God's call to minister to others through Woodlawn United Church.

Working with Rev. Dale this past year was awesome and I look forward to working with him as Woodlawn transitions into the next stage of our faith journey. As well, I'd like to



take this opportunity to thank Dale for his extra time and effort in taking over some of my responsibilities this past fall when I injured my right ankle. I appreciated his help and prayers over that time.

Thanks be to God for Woodlawn United Church and the mission and ministry that take place through this wonderful Community of Faith. May God bless your journey into the future.

*Submitted by Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte*

## **CO-CHAIRS OF COUNCIL REPORT**

It has been a challenging year for your Church Council. With COVID 19 restrictions we were unable to meet in person at all during 2021. All of Council's meetings were held utilizing ZOOM. Thank goodness for technology that enabled all groups within the church to meet online using audio and video capabilities to help ease the difficulties of not meeting in person.

Council met monthly taking July and August off from regular sessions but meeting when issues arose.

Fay and I were elected to the co chair positions in May during the online AGM. Since then, we have taken turns chairing Council meetings and responding to day to day issues that require our involvement.

We are very proud of how Council has come together as a cohesive team dedicated to the positive future of our church. This does not mean that we all necessarily agree 100% on all issues. What it means is that we have developed a respectful manner to work together and deal with our different opinions or positions. This has made Council a much more satisfying group to belong to and doing the work of our church is much more fun and effective.

We thank all members of Council for being a dedicated group and working together in a friendly respectful manner.

So now the question is where do we go from here? Well, you know we are in a Transitional Ministry system and have been since last spring. The transition team led by Rev. Dale has been meeting, running information gathering sessions, seeking your input on the future direction of our church. The Transition team is made up of folks from our congregation that are committed to developing the future direction of Woodlawn. To do this effectively they need all of us to participate in this process. COVID 19 has made this very challenging, but they are trying hard, and they need our support.



Many folks have asked what happened to the Community of Faith Profile Report and why do we need this Transitional Ministry. Well, that's a very good question. You must understand and appreciate that first the Community of Faith Profile report is very much a part of the current process. It is in fact a backbone to assist the Transition Team to pull their work together. Understand that Transitional Ministry was not an option for us. Our Region 15 made the decision to have Woodlawn enter into this process and as part of the overall United Church Governance System we are obligated to work through this process and come out with a direction and structure that will be approved by Region 15. This is part of being a member church of the United Church of Canada. So, to respect this structure and the directive from the Region we are well into the work of meeting the goals collectively set for this process. We all need to work together, be active, offer your opinions, thoughts, interests etc. as it relates to the type of church you would like to see Woodlawn be and then what do we need to achieve those needs, wishes, desires and directions. This is our Church, and we must get involved and for some, stay involved to assure we are heading in the right desired direction.

Fay and I have agreed to stay on as Co Chairs for another term if so desired by the Congregation. Many others have also agreed to person the various offices and committees we have at Woodlawn. However, some have decided to move on to other ways of serving and we have a few vacancies we would like to fill. For now, we are going to focus on those committees or offices that are mandated to have in place and once the Transition Team reports on Governance options, we will work towards filling those positions. For now we will be tapping you on the shoulder to do your part. Please give prayerful consideration when you are asked to play a role in our ongoing church life. "IT MATTERS."

*Respectively submitted by Fay Gunter and Barry Zwicker, Co-Chairs of Council*



## ACCESSIBILITY COMMITTEE

**Friends of Accessibility:** Another nine months of inactivity until we ran our first of four take out only chowder luncheons on September 29. That one proved very successful thus three more followed. We brought Country Classic back in November to a small attendance, and Blain Henshaw performed in early December which drew a much better attendance. From these six events we raised and donated to the Accessibility Fund \$9,221.00. That brought total funds raised by this group since 2006 to \$252,298.00. We were recently advised of a very generous donation from Tabitha UCW (\$200.00) toward the purchase of pies for our chowders in 2022.

The Lawtons program continues to be an important part of our fundraising effort although not counted in the totals reported above. When I first approached Lawtons back in 2013, I was hoping for a one time contribution of perhaps \$5,000.00. When Lawtons suggested this program they assured us it would be much more to our advantage than a onetime donation. Launched in 2014 we now have 7 years of earnings between \$2,500.00 and \$3,000.00 per year. Many thanks to Alan Ellis who took on this program at the beginning and ran with it.

**Chancel:** Our chancel area remains unfinished business of the Accessibility Team. It was worked on during our planning for the addition but put on the back burner due to funding concerns. A loose knit group of Accessibility members and Trustees have done some exploratory visits to other churches looking for ideas. Ernie, Barry and Ralph travelled to Truro to visit a newly renovated Baptist Church that is a similar building and age as Woodlawn. We also paid a visit to St. Andrews United to check out their chancel area. Recently eight of us had a tour of the newly built Life Branch Church in Dartmouth. This is the former First Baptist congregation who not only have a very lovely and versatile new building but a new name as well. Our thanks to George Diamond for the well conducted tour. Ernie and Ralph have also visited the newly renovated St. Andrews United in Halifax. Accessibility has taken on new meaning with Covid restrictions. We have been forced to find new ways of reaching our congregation when our building is closed. Our tech team has gone beyond the extra mile in doing this with aging equipment and the challenge of learning on the fly. During our visits to other churches we have checked out and made notes of how others are doing this. We must be prepared to do church differently as we move forward. No crystal ball that we have consulted to date tells us what is around the corner. We must continue to seek out God's plan for us and for Woodlawn. We do that through prayer and dialogue.

As we look to 2022 our prayer is that the vaccines will be effective, that life will return to somewhere near normal and we can once again provide worship, food, entertainment and fellowship within our building.

***Heartfelt thanks from all of us on the Accessibility Committee for your ongoing support of this project. Respectfully submitted by Ralph Sams, Chair of Accessibility / Friends of Accessibility***





## **ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT (A&M)**

The Administration & Management Committee has a specific mandate associated with the finances of the congregation. While A&M is not responsible for developing and carrying out our stewardship program, we work with the Stewardship Team and Ministry & Personnel. Areas of responsibility:

- 1) Payroll management: Kathy Hawkins has the vital task of managing the payroll system for all staff and reports regularly to the A&M team.
- 2) Accountant/Budget Officer: Ivan Richardson is our accountant and maintains financial records in accordance with UCC policy and CRA regulations. Ivan is assisted by Carol McKnight whose efforts are appreciated. They are busy handling day to day reimbursements and cheque preparation. They provide monthly statements and coordinate any financial reviews. Bev Wicks and Joan Mikkelsen continue to do our miscellaneous deposits.
- 3) Records Clerk & PAR coordinator: Joan Mikkelsen maintains your personal information and is the sole person to record offerings and issue annual income tax receipts. In this capacity, she also manages the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) system. Currently 157 households are using PAR as their primary means of giving to the church.
- 4) Rentals: Bev Wicks and Shelley Clee, our office administrator, manage our rentals for the church facilities. Led by Shelley they handle promotion of our rental spaces, agreements and compliance.
- 5) Tellers: Keith Musselman ensures we have two tellers to receive, process, and deposit weekly offerings. Most teller duties this year have been carried out by Bev and Joan, who took the task of doing deposits bimonthly when necessary, to restrict personal contact amongst our group of volunteer tellers. Thank you, Bev and Joan.
- 6) Council representation: As the chair, Keith Musselman attended WUC council meetings, brought forward our recommendations and reported back to A&M.
- 7) Ministerial Staff: Reverend Mary Lynne Whyte is the representative on the A&M Committee. We thank her for her input, knowledge and views during our meetings. During the year Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner joined our Zoom Meetings.
- 8) Trustees: Kim Mitchell is the representative for the WUC Trustees. Her participation and input at A&M meetings is appreciated.

2021 was a busy year for A&M due to the effects of Covid-19. The necessary restrictions caused several changes to our way of operating and recording financial transactions. Our financial statements show we received approximately 1/2 of our normal rental income. Kathy and Ivan were heavily involved administering Federal financial aid programs. Kim Mitchell and the trustees implemented cost saving measures early during closures and restrictions of the church. Our financial statement for 2021 showed several changes, some known, others due to Covid-19 restrictions. Rev. Kennedy's and Rev. MacLean's departure from WUC had resulted in reduced staffing costs however, Rev. Dale Skinner agreed to come on staff officially joining Woodlawn United on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.



Rental cancellations reduced revenue. Federal assistance programs provided replacement income and local meetings were cancelled so some budgets were not spent. Families on PAR continued to support WUC and remained a steady source of operating capital. In short, at the end of 2021 we finished in a surplus situation. As in last year, we are anticipating a deficit this year and it's reflected in the proposed 2022 budget. In all clear conscience, we must predict a deficit budget for 2022 at this point as we can't predict the future effect or magnitude of federal assistance like we had last year.

Ivan and Joan investigated and implemented policy and procedures for e-transfers. I thank them for their persistence in arranging this with our bank. PAR is still the preferred method for donations as it's more efficient and less complicated. In future, WUC hopes to have financial reviews conducted by members of the congregation with a financial background. This falls within UCC guidelines.

My thanks to all members of A&M for their dedication to the work of our church and the vital tasks they do to ensure our missions and goals.

*Respectively Submitted by Keith Musselman, Chair A&M Committee*

#### **RENTALS (Addendum to A&M Report)**

2021 was again slightly different for rentals. Due to the sporadic nature of the waves of Covid 19 keeping our regular rental groups away, our rental revenue was lower than anticipated, with an end of year total of \$14,000. This is slightly better than 2020, but is significantly less than our typical rental revenue. Rental revenue includes both long term and one time rentals, all of which are external. There continues to be a shortage of rental space in the HRM (and specifically Dartmouth), especially for evening hour requests by individual instruction based groups (Zumba, yoga, dance, etc). The rental committee is continuing to look at this gap to see how we can provide space while meeting our own policies and ethos, and rental guidelines, while respecting the need for space for all Ministry needs. We welcomed a new group – The Mayflower Quilting Club at the beginning of 2021. They were able to meet a few times between Covid case increases. We look forward to welcoming our groups back just as soon as Covid restrictions allow.

*Submitted by Shelley Clee, Office Administrator*



## **COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS (“C/PR”)**

2021 was another year spent dealing with the impacts of Covid-19. From our perspective, that meant that our Sunday livestream on Facebook was the only way many of our congregation were able to experience the services. Most Sunday worship services have 70 or so people watching live and 400 – 500 views within a week. Towards the end of the year it also meant that we decided to reduce the staff used for each service from 3 down to 1 to eliminate the possibility of any transmission of sickness. The communications team, like all Woodlawn teams really enjoy the community aspect of our Sunday work in the booth and not being able to get together up there is a real loss.

Through many site visits and much research, we finally decided to purchase a replacement for our old analog sound board. With Covid-19 throwing in a wrench, however, a long wait has transpired; first to the end of 2021 and now until at least April of 2022. We are using a rental board in the meantime for which a monthly fee of \$0.00 was negotiated while we wait for the new board. The new sound board is an Allen & Heath QU32. This is a digital board and is much more flexible than our old board. It will allow us to grow in whatever direction Woodlawn takes for the next several years.

We added a new head mic that seems to have resolved a static issue that we were having with the old units. New speakers were purchased to use as choir monitors (speakers that point back towards the choir so that they can hear people at the pulpits).

Woodlawn’s website was also a topic of discussion. It is generally agreed that our current website would benefit from some changes. Looking ahead to 2022 we hope to identify what we ultimately want our website to do as well as who will perform various updating tasks (such as events, advertisements etc.) as well as a possible redesign of our website.

In September of 2021, June Rigden began work as Woodlawn’s choir director and had to step back from work with the communications team though she continues to do work making “music videos” for anthems.

Gus Webb stepped up to fill the role of Web page support and we hope to define that role more thoroughly in 2022. We also welcomed new member Mike MacNeil to the Sunday presentation team.

Looking ahead to 2022, we will be installing some donated cabinets to the tech booth so that we can securely store our equipment closer to where we work. We hope to replace the choir monitor amplifier, purchase another head mic and take possession of our new sound board. Our church phone system is beginning to show signs of requiring retirement and we will need to investigate a solution for that.



A big thank you to the Communications team for all their hard work in 2021!

*Respectfully submitted by Paul Whyte, Chair, Communications Team*

Jennifer Evans(PPC), Bev Lynch(PPC, PPP, A), Mike MacNeil(L, A), Murdock Morrison(A), June Rigden(PPC, PPP, L), Steve Rigden(A, L, PPP), Gus Webb(WP), Paul Whyte(A, L, PPP), Peter Woods(A, L, PPC, PPP), Barry Zwicker(A, L)  
Audio (A), Live Stream (L), PowerPoint Creator (PPC), PowerPoint Presenter (PPP), Web Page Support (WP)

## COMMUNITY OF CARE

The Community of Care is a committee comprised of a number of smaller groups of dedicated members of Woodlawn United Church who care about the congregation and wish to be part of this ministry in many ways. Thank you to all the contributors in this ministry.

Goal: To ensure that the members of the congregation are in frequent and consistent contact with each other.

Early in 2021 Jerry Jackson and Dodie Covert agreed to co-chair this committee as overall coordinators.

At the moment we are in need of new volunteers for the following;

- Volunteer Recruitment,
- Volunteer Screening and Policy Implementation Committee,
- Worship Committee ... secretary, new participants, 3 more people to help with Communion preparation
- Kindred Spirits
- Funeral Liaisons

So if you feel the call to help please call either myself, Dodie @ 434-4620 or Jerry @ 435-4464.

The individual reports of the various teams ministering to our congregants follow. There are so many loving, caring people involved and we thank them all. You really are a blessing!

### **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

*"Sometimes there are no words. A Prayer Shawl wraps someone in a hug that is the accumulation of thoughts and prayers for them."*

Sending prayers in the direction of someone in need of comfort and solace during times of illness, grief, loneliness and other difficulties, is the very essence of the Prayer Shawl





Ministry. Many prayers and blessings are knitted/crocheted into every Prayer Shawl made. Once completed, they are gathered and offered a final blessing by Rev. Mary Lynne before being presented to the recipient. Prayer Shawls have also been made specifically for children to receive at their Baptism so they can feel the unconditional love of a sheltering and compassionate God.

Thank you and blessings to those who lovingly and prayerfully create the beautiful Prayer Shawls that enable this valuable Ministry, which began in 2009 by our dear Vivian Hill, to continue. To date, **604** Prayer Shawls have been presented.

Prayer Shawls go out not only to WUC members, but to folks in the community and beyond who we hope will feel the love of God through the prayers that are knitted/crocheted into each shawl, providing the strength and encouragement that is needed to face various obstacles present in their lives. What a blessing the Prayer Shawls and the creators themselves have been over this past year of the pandemic where people need to feel God's love to sustain them.

Thank you to those who have contributed by making financial donations to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the purchase of wool so we have a ready supply for the hands that are ready to create.

If you wish to get involved in this valuable Ministry or if you know of anyone that would benefit from receiving a Prayer Shawl, please contact Nancy Allen at 902-435-5567 or email: [nancyallen5@gmail.com](mailto:nancyallen5@gmail.com).

*Respectfully submitted by Nancy Allen, Prayer Shawl Ministry*

### **KINDRED SPIRITS**

Kindred Spirits has been a group of widows who have met monthly to provide a safe, social atmosphere for those who have lost their spouses and would like to connect and engage with others who are at a similar stage in their lives. The members of the group support each other.

Over the past year or so the Kindred Spirits group has pretty much dissolved simply due to the aging out of its members as well as due to the impacts of Covid preventing them from meeting.

A return of that group is not likely until there is a recruitment done to try to engage new members. If anyone has an interest in initiating this group again please let Jerry or Dodie know and we will help get it going.

### **FUNERAL FOLLOWUP**

In 2009, a program to support those dealing with the loss of a loved one was initiated. A phone call is made three weeks after the loss and on the one year anniversary of death.



Also, a series of four Journeying Through Grief Booklets are delivered or mailed during an eleven month span. To date, 128 series of booklets have been completed and 2 are in progress. The feedback from this program continues to be very positive.

Due to the closing of the Cole Harbor Woodside Resource Center, booklets are in short supply. We are looking into procuring the booklets from another source.

*Submitted by Carol White and Kim Mitchell*

### **PASTORAL PHONE MINISTRY TEAM**

This ministry was the idea of Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte in the fall of 2020 as a means to help keep our congregation connected during the pandemic. Ten callers, each with 50 names, began calling in mid-January 2021. Three to four calls were made to each household during the year. For 2022 we will be involving more callers and shorter lists, three of our current callers are taking a break, seven are staying on and we will add another six. We lost something when visiting Elders were discontinued many years ago, perhaps this ministry can replace some of that fellowship and support.

The Pastoral Phone Ministry Team has made a huge positive difference in connecting with Woodlawn people by phone, many who have been isolated during this global pandemic. It is definitely a team effort when it comes to ministering to so many people in this unique way. Thank you to Ralph Sams who has been instrumental in organizing this ministry and checking in with the team. Thanks also to Bob Watt for assisting Ralph by making out the calling lists. Much time and effort is involved in making sure the ministry runs smoothly. As well, I'd like to thank each of the volunteer callers for their part in this pastoral outreach ministry. It would not be possible without them. Thank you all.

*Blessings,  
Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte  
Coordinators: Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte & Ralph Sams*

### **PASTORAL CARE TEAM**

Caring for one another is what pastoral care is all about. We show this in different ways. Our compassion and concern is shown through our eyes when we make eye contact. It's shown through our listening presence, and if the opportunity arises, through our gentle words. When clergy or lay volunteers visit people in hospitals or homes, we bring our loving concern and the loving concern and prayers of Woodlawn into their lives at that particular moment. They then realize they're unconditionally loved and remembered by their church family, just as Jesus unconditionally loves and remembers each one of us. It's a loving and caring ministry that follows the Way of Jesus, and it can raise someone's spirits and give them comfort and hope.

**Hospital Pastoral Care:** Woodlawn's Ministry Team provides crisis care as required, in home, hospital, or church office. When we know there is a Woodlawn person in hospital,



though it may not be a crisis, we do our best to visit them on a weekly basis. However, the United Church of Canada patient list at Dartmouth General Hospital/QEII has not been available since Covid-19 began which means we cannot check to see if anyone from Woodlawn is in the hospital. In fact, there have been many months this past year when the hospitals did not even allow clergy to visit in person. Hence, we've been relying on family members to let the office know if a loved one is in hospital so a minister can either visit in person, if allowed, or call the patient on their phone to have a short chat and prayer. All patients at our hospitals during Covid waves were given a phone if they didn't have a cell phone. If clergy were allowed to visit in person, then we followed the hospital's strict Covid protocols. Throughout the year, we tried very hard to make sure no one was missed during a hospital stay, but when a person was in hospital for a short time, especially if the office had not been notified, we may have missed the opportunity to offer pastoral care. That's why we so appreciate people notifying Woodlawn as soon as possible when someone is hospitalized.

During an in-person visit, we bring a friendly face, as well as greetings and concern from Woodlawn. We also ask permission to put the patient's name in our bulletin. In the past, in order to help them feel connected to their church family, we have tried to bring a recent bulletin or newsletter. We ask each patient if they would like us to pray and are pleased to pray aloud for a few moments. But we always respect people's wishes if someone does not feel the need for prayer. If clergy were unable to visit, then Jerry Jackson from the Pastoral Care Team did the visiting and updated the office/clergy. Thank you, Jerry, for your kind and caring ways and your dedication to this ministry.

**Home Visitation Pastoral Care:** We try to keep current lists of people that can't easily leave their homes or place of residence, but would appreciate notification from a close relative to keep us informed in case we have missed someone. In pre-Covid times, our lay visitors would visit our shut-ins at least once in a six week period bringing worship service bulletins, a friendly face, a listening ear, prayer, and sometimes, a lovely "Thinking of You" card created by Shelley Clee, one of our Office Administrators. Occasionally, the Ministry Team brought Home Communion to those who could not get out to church, especially if it was requested. We are pleased to do this. However, during Covid, we have not been visiting in person, unless it has been urgently requested, and then strict Covid protocols have been maintained. Mainly, we have been phoning our people for a short visit and to see if they require anything from their church family.

Prior to Covid-19, the Pastoral Care Team used to meet in person at the church every few months to report about their visits, update each other, and brainstorm possible people we should be adding to our list. During the past year, we met on Zoom which allowed us to do exactly the same thing. We are very grateful for this technology that the Woodlawn Communications Team purchased when Covid began and that they continue to maintain so all groups can meet together when we can't meet in person. In my opinion, Zoom is the next best thing to meeting in person.



Woodlawn currently has 454 households under pastoral care. At this point, we only have 9 active lay pastoral care people on our team (Jane Cushing, Elizabeth Heatley, Don Hill [on hold], Jerry Jackson, Dorothy Lindsay, Kim Mitchell, Donna Moore, Murdock Morrison, Carol White, and Shirley Zwicker). They are wonderful and caring people and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of them for their dedicated ministry through Woodlawn United. We definitely need more people to help us care for our shut-ins and people in hospitals. Please, carefully consider joining us if you have any interest in this type of ministry. And if you are interested, please contact Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte by calling the church office at 902-434-8302 or by e-mailing [marylynne.whyte@woodlawnunited.ca](mailto:marylynne.whyte@woodlawnunited.ca) and we can discuss your involvement in this very important ministry. Thank you so much.

*Respectfully submitted by Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Pastoral Care Minister*

### **CARING CARD MINISTRY**

During the spring of 2021, with Covid-19 still an unwelcome reality, it became clear to me that we needed another way to connect with our Woodlawn people, especially if they were going through a difficult time. Sending cards is a nice way to remind people that they are thought about and cared for. After letting the congregation know about this new ministry, and asking for volunteers, I immediately had three wonderful ladies offer their services. Our Condolence Card Ministry began first, in early March and since Jennifer Taylor notified me right away, she took on this volunteer role. Next, Maureen Woods emailed me to let me know she was quite keen so she began a Thinking of You/Praying for You Card Ministry. About the same time, I was notified by Mary Osborne that she was happy to take part, so she began the Thank You Card Ministry. To help us out, Shelley and Ruth, our Office Administrators, offered to design and print off Woodlawn cards and after buying envelopes and stamps, gave each of the volunteers their packages. Thankfully, they continue to do so whenever the packages need to be replenished. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shelley and Ruth for their time, effort, and skills in aiding us in this ministry, and I'd like to thank our Caring Card Committee consisting of Jennifer, Maureen, and Mary who are all very dedicated to this pastoral outreach ministry and are doing a marvelous job! They are a blessing to many.

*Respectfully submitted by Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte*

### **Condolence Card Ministry**

When I learned that this new Ministry was being formed, I immediately saw it as an opportunity to serve both my Church and the community. This endeavour allows me to connect with those who are going through a difficult time in their lives, through the written word. I like to believe that such a simple thing as receiving a condolence card, along with a personal note, is a tangible reminder that Woodlawn is a caring place, and we are here to listen or help in any way we can. Since March 4, I have sent thirty-six condolence cards, along with personal notes, to bereaved families who had lost someone with connections to Woodlawn United Church. *Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Taylor*





### **Thinking of You/Praying for You Card Ministry**

When I heard this Ministry was going to start at Woodlawn, I jumped at the chance to volunteer. I had been in charge of cards for my Condo for two years, and enjoyed that I could do it from home and I did get to know folks better through this contact. I am in charge of two aspects of this Committee, Thinking of you & Praying for you Cards. I have sent out 33 Cards, from April 6/21 to January 6/22. 6 of those cards were follow up cards, just to let our Congregants know we were here for them if needed. Cards and Postage are provided by the Office Staff and we keep an account of whom and how many we send out. I have had several positive comments, by letter and phone, which is uplifting to know we make a small difference during tough times.

Anyone interested in this Ministry I urge you to contact Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte or the Office Staff, we would welcome your assistance with our Ministry. New ideas are always welcome.

If you do know of anyone requiring our assistance in this way, please feel free to contact the office with the information.

*Respectfully submitted by Maureen Woods*

### **Thank You Card Ministry**

When this new ministry began in 2021, I was pleased to be asked to send out “thank you” cards to those who volunteer so many of their talents and their time to our Woodlawn congregation. I believe that those gifts should not be taken for granted and that we should acknowledge those who deserve our gratitude.

During 2021, I sent out 21 cards of thanks to deserving persons who were recommended to me by either the Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte or the Church Office. Feedback I received told me that this is a good and meaningful Ministry to be a part of.

*Respectfully submitted by Mary Osborne*

### **FELLOWSHIP**

Our Fellowship time after Sunday services was affected by the Covid pandemic this year. We did manage to do about 8 in the beginning of the year until all activities came to a halt.

In September we were allowed to meet again so we held 10 more fellowship times together. At the fall events you could see everyone smiling, talking and just enjoying being together again. Unfortunately just before Christmas we were shut down again so are anxiously awaiting a decline in cases so we can gather once again.

A basket is put out for donations at each time and an average of \$25 is collected each time. This money pays for our supplies and the rest is donated to Woodlawn’s general fund.



Thank you to all the volunteers who make this time enjoyable and to those of you who didn't get to have your turn, I have your names ready for reopening.

*Respectfully submitted by Shirley Zwicker*

### **STATISTICS**

Our Congregational Roll at year end (2021) stood at 454 households and 997 individuals under pastoral care. During the year (2021), 6 individuals were added to our Congregational Roll and 48 were deleted for various reasons (relocated, deceased, unable to locate).

During the year (2021) 1 individual was added to our Historical Roll (by transfer), and 26 individuals were removed from the Historical Roll (5 transferred out, and 21 deceased).

*Submitted by Joan Mikkelsen*

### **WIDOWERS GROUP**

The Widower's Group did not meet in 2021 mainly due to Covid 19 preventing the group from coming together in a way that felt safe and comfortable for all. We look forward to a return to this group in 2022.

*Submitted by Keith Musselman*

## **MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

*Not available*

## **PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

As I read the reports reviewing 2021 work of Programs at Woodlawn United I am reminded of the old hymn "Will Your Anchor Hold ", the next line is "in the storms of life " well 2021 had a few storms however , with the dedication of Committees and chairs, many thing were accomplished to further the work we are called to do within our church and the wider community .The highlights of these accomplishments are noted below and I would like to thank all who were involved in the effort and the many successes . We are again reminded as the Creed says, "We are not alone "and the "anchor is steadfast " at Woodlawn United as we enter the gift of the year 2022 .

*Respectively Submitted by Brian Moors, Program Chair*

### **EAST DARTMOUTH CHRISTIAN FOOD BANK**

Access to food being is a basic necessity for life. The East Dartmouth Foodbank has had many challenges over the last 2 years. We have been working very hard to keep the food



bank open and the clients of east Dartmouth feed. The foodbank continues to be open on Wed mornings to receive food and Thursday mornings to give it out. The foodbank has had to change our set up a number of times to accommodate the different waves of covid. Limiting the number to a consistent small number of volunteers. We have seen an increase in the numbers of individuals and families looking for support over the last year and we expect this increase to continue as food becomes more expensive.

Again, this year our partner churches and community groups answered our call for school supplies. We were able to provide a backpack and supplies to everyone who needed them in September and again in January. We have received blankets, hats mittens and scarves to hand out to clients. Assistance was provided to ensure clients were registered for Christmas Support. Applications for heating support are being given out through the foodbank.

The clients and volunteers of the foodbank would like to thank the 5 churches and community partners for their ongoing support of this very valuable ministry.

*Submitted by Shaureen Taweel, Coordinator of the EDCFoodbank*

### **OUTREACH**

Our Mission Statement is to provide an opportunity to support people who are less fortunate in a God centered way. With the support of the congregation, Outreach puts Christian Faith into action through the programs we support.

This year, once again due to COVID 19, the Outreach Committee made several decisions when we started to plan the 2021 White Gift program in May, via Zoom.

Thanks to the help and support from the congregation, Feed Nova Scotia, Sobeys, Dave's, the choir and UCW groups, we are happy to report another successful White Gift program here at Woodlawn.

This year 55 people from 16 families between the ages of 1 to 69 received the following gifts: two bags of groceries, one bag of fruit and vegetables, \$35.00 Sobeys Gift Card for a turkey or other protein, and a \$50.00 Walmart or other Gift Card. We expanded the grocery list this year for all families, as well as added extra food to families of 5, 6, or 7 people.

Edward House (male teens) and Brockwell House (female teens) and Welcome Housing and Support (adult men and women) received a total of 36 gift bags and shoeboxes.

Approximately \$400 worth of clothing, toys, books and games was donated to The North Grove.

About 100 mitts, hats and scarves were donated to our families, as well as to 2 local Elementary schools.



We initiated a couple of new things:

A half dozen newborn knit sweater and hat sets were donated to SHYM (Secure Housing for Young Mothers).

A coat drive resulted in 20 almost new (a few new) winter coats that were donated to children and teens (most from our 16 families).

The Sleeping Children around the World program received \$805.00 from 14 families.

During 2021, we supported the following programs with donations of money the Outreach Committee received from the Woodlawn Kiwanis Club.

1. Brunswick Street Mission
2. Phoenix Food for Youth
3. Margaret's House
4. Boys and Girls Club
5. Canadian Mental Health Association (HRM Chapter)

Members of Outreach report on meetings for the Dartmouth Community Health Board, Margaret's House, Phoenix House and the East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank Board.

The Outreach Committee consists of dedicated congregation members who are aware of the need to seek social justice for our neighbours who struggle to live in today's world, doing what they can to follow Jesus' way to show compassion, understanding and love. We will continue to look for ways to serve those in need in our community in 2022.

*Respectfully submitted by Dawn Coleman and Al MacIsaac  
Co-Chairs of the Outreach Committee.*

### **WOODLAWN SCOUTS**

Woodlawn United Church's Scouts made the best of 2021 given COVID gathering limits and restrictions! Here are some notables.

We are one of the largest Scouts Canada groups in Nova Scotia numbering 42 youth and 21 Scouters for a total membership of 63. We continue to offer quality programs in the Beaver, Cub, Scout, and Venturer Sections. For those of you who are not familiar with us, Scouts Canada is the country's leading co-ed youth organization, offering programming for children and youth aged 5-26. With over 50,000 youth participating across the country, in multiple languages and reflecting Canada's multicultural landscape, kids and youth in Scouts chart their own path of discovery. Scouts Canada is committed to diversity and inclusion in an ever-changing world.

We celebrated two long service milestones last fall. Mr. Don Sanford was recognized for 50 years of service and Mrs. Janet Irving was recognized for 25 years of service. We are very





proud and thankful to Don and Janet for their many years of dedication to our youth and their fellowship.

Our programming in 2021 included a blend of virtual and outdoor meetings with a sprinkling of hikes all in compliance with public health requirements. We are optimistic that 2022 will see a return to camping and overnight outdoor events.

We welcome all inquiries about our program and are always happy to take on new members and volunteers throughout the year. We can be reached through my contact information below.

*On behalf of the Youth and Scouters of 1st Woodlawn Scout Group,  
George Mawko, Group Commissioner  
Tel: 902.402.8364; email: [george.mawko@scouts.ca](mailto:george.mawko@scouts.ca)*

#### **GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA – BROOKHOUSE DISTRICT**

The January to December 2021 guiding year has been a very busy and stressful year. Girl Guides of Canada Brookhouse District consists of 10 units which meet at Iona Presbyterian Church and both buildings at the Woodlawn United Church.

There are 21 leaders and girls meeting at Woodlawn weekly. The units that meet at the Woodlawn brick church are 1 Brownie Unit, 1 Guide Unit and 1 Pathfinder/Ranger unit. On Wednesday night the Brownie unit and the Girl Guide unit share the facilities. Unfortunately, this means that they need to share the space separately and are unable to bridge together because of the Girl Guide Covid restrictions. The other Girl Guide unit meets on Monday nights.

Over the past 2021 guiding year, the leaders have been working very hard to provide their units' with the Girl First Guiding Program. The girls are learning and developing their camping skills, taking part in many community service projects, completing challenges and participating in doing many fun-filled crafts, games and program activities. Here is an update of some of the activities that each branch has been working on throughout the 2021 calendar year.

The Brownie unit embarked on many exciting learning adventures by completing as a group most of the Girls First program.

The Girl Guide unit worked hard at the Girls First Program to their units.

The Pathfinder/Ranger unit have also been very busy on their Girls First Program.

Usually these groups would be doing various volunteer and camping projects throughout the year. The autumn 2021 year has been difficult to navigate at well. At this moment, no



one in the Girl Guide Association is allowed to take part in camps, but are slowly allowed to take part in special outings. We are hoping the 2022 year will be a lot better.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Woodlawn United Church for providing the four branches of guiding a place for the girls to learn, develop and have fun. Without your generous support, we would not be able to provide this opportunity to our girls. We greatly appreciate all you do for the guiding movement.

Yours In Guiding

Deanna Gillespie Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada  
Brookhouse District Commissioner

### **COUPLES CLUB**

The report this year is brief due to the restrictions around gathering during the COVID 19 pandemic. The book sale room, located in a room off the stage in the fellowship hall, stayed open and even with limited opportunities for folks to be in the church received \$32.00 from book sales.

We did get together in November, when the restrictions were reduced for a short period of time, to play crokinole in the fellowship hall. The fun event was organized jointly with the Youth Committee (headed by Lisa Allen). It was lots of fun playing singles and doubles games and of course there were snacks. We hope to have more events with the youth.

A few Couples Club members made and served hot apple cider following the Christmas carol service. All appreciated the hot drink outside on a cold and windy night.

While we were unable to hold any fundraising events this year, we did disburse funds from funds previously raised. The following is a summary of the disbursements:

\$1000.00 towards new mattresses at Camp Kidston; \$1000.00 towards the painting of the sanctuary; and \$370.00 to purchase shelving for the Dungeon

\$428.00 to purchase the lights around the outline of the cross in the solar array on the roof of the church

When we are able to gather again as a group, we welcome all who are looking to get out enjoy some friendly fellowship and yes, a few snacks. If you have never come out to one of our events take the leap. You will enjoy it and meet some new friends and get reacquainted with some old ones.

*Respectfully submitted by Shirley & Barry Zwicker*



## RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

*Please see message from your Council Co-Chairs in email of February 9, 2022 entitled "Nominations List".*

## STEWARDSHIP

The Following is a recap of our Stewardship work during 2021:

This year, the committee successfully mailed out the Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas letters. All of the Thanksgiving and Christmas letters were mailed rather than picked up during service, as we did in 2020.

- This being our first full year living in the pandemic, we switched the Easter Lenten Bottle Campaign to an envelope which was included in the Easter Letter.
- Thank you to Joan Mikkelsen and Shelley Clee for always providing us with envelopes, labels, stamps, and all!
- If you have questions about your givings, or if you would like to join PAR (preauthorized remittance), or obtain a box of envelopes please contact Joan at [info@joanmikkelsen.com](mailto:info@joanmikkelsen.com) or by phoning 902-435-6296.

Though the pandemic continued, but with help from vaccinations, we were able (for a short time at least) to gather together in person.

- In September we hosted an ice cream bar social 'Welcome Back' event during fellowship following worship.
- For Woodlawn United Church's 137<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on October 24<sup>th</sup> we celebrated with a catered luncheon and words of gratitude from Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte and Rev. Dale Skinner.

While presenting *Minute for Mission Local* was tricky this year, we created videos to showcase two of our local missions: The East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank and The Dun-Gen.

This year, the Stewardship Team was fortunate to team up with other local churches and participate in a 4-week workshop hosted by Stewardship & Gift Officer, Roger Janes from Region 15. The workshop was entitled "*Called to Be the Church: The Journey*" We thank Roger for his teachings, and look forward to sharing all we've learned in with Woodlawn in 2022.

Many thanks to Mary Osborne for leading the organization of Minute for Mission (Global). Mary's report is as follows:



### **MISSION & SERVICE ENTHUSIAST REPORT – 2021**

Again 2021 was a challenging year for presenting information about M & S. The National Church has limited videos available due to the Covid-19 pandemic. And, for the same reason, it has been difficult for members of the congregation to be in attendance in the sanctuary to read the minutes. Several times our ministers, Rev. Mary Lynne and Rev. Dale have agreed to read the minute and I thank them for that.

Therefore, as your Mission & Service enthusiast, along with the minutes for mission I am making use of the monthly newsletter to present and inform you, the congregation, of the work of M & S. The stories in the minutes show the wide need for financial support both at home and in the wider world. Did you know that in 2021 \$240,000 of gifts to M & S was returned to support areas of work near our own congregation? If we can't be there in person to help, it is our privilege as members of the United Church of Canada to offer our financial support.

Many “thanks” to all who support Mission & Service. I also thank Shelley Clee for her assistance at all times.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Osborne, Mission & Service Enthusiast*

We thank Wendy Fitch who manages the on-line donations. Her report is as follows:

### **ONLINE DONATION REPORT 2021**

In 2021 we received 23 donations for a total of \$7,849.02. The breakdown for the funds chosen is as follows:

- General Fund: \$6,744.02
- Solar Panel Fund: \$384.00
- M&S Fund: \$3,36.76
- Accessibility Fund: \$288.00
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: 96.25

We received a number of donations from Ontario, one from PEI, one from California and from various communities around Nova Scotia.

*Respectfully submitted: Wendy Fitch*

Murdock Morrison continues to lead the Trash to Treasure program, and collects any money from the three depots that are part of this program. This year the church collected \$60.71. We sincerely thank to all that took part. Please consider this project as a way to help our churches finances.



- To participate in this program, drop off your refundable items to any of the following recycling depots: Canadian Recycling at 365 Portland Street; Bluenose Recycling at 99 Woodlawn Road; or Karen's Recycling at 807 Main Street, and let them know you are giving your donations to Woodlawn United Church. All money collected from the depots go to operating expenses.

Our team consists of the following: Darlene Brown, Ray DeRoche, Wendy Fitch (On-line donations), Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte, Shirley MacLeod, Christine McGinnis (secretary), Joan Mikkelsen (Envelope Steward/records clerk), Brian Moors, Murdock Morrison, Mary Osborne (M&S Global), Ivan Richardson (Accounting Administrator), and Rev. Dale Skinner.

*Respectively submitted by: Kelly MacNeil & Fred Evans*

## TRANSITIONAL TEAM MINISTRY

The Transitional Team of Woodlawn United Church is comprised of the following individuals:

Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner (Intentional Interim Minister) Appointed June 1, 2021  
Jerry Jackson, Member – Woodlawn United Church  
Teri Giannou, Member – Woodlawn United Church  
Shirley MacLeod, Member – Woodlawn United Church  
Emily Masse, Member – Woodlawn United Church  
Rev. Susan Chisholm – Region 15 Representative  
Elaine Gray – Region 15 Representative

Transitional Ministry Goals for Woodlawn United Church

*1) Woodlawn's governance system has been in place for approximately 15 years. During this transition time, we are seeking to review the current model with specific attention to its ongoing relevance and effectiveness. There are specific areas we hope to review and address:*

- a) Clarify the lines of authority/expectations and communications between Council and Ministry Team.*
- b) Clearly identify roles, responsibilities and relationships between lay leaders and the Ministry Team.*
- c) The CoFP recommendations are proposing new approaches to worship, fellowship, youth ministry etc. How does the governance model fit into these proposed changes?*
- d) We have a long history at Woodlawn. What have we learned from our history that can help us into the future with respect to governance models?*





*2) The CoFP Team propose new approaches and trying new, alternative approaches to programs and services. A strategy and timeline need to be developed to ensure an organized, timely roll out.*

*3) During this interim period, focus must be put on improving our understanding and working relationship with Region 15 and the wider church.*

*4) COVID 19 has caused many changes to how we develop and offer services and programs. One specific area that was highlighted during the CoFP consultation process was developing more opportunities around Fellowship within our Woodlawn family. There has been very little considered around how we do this with COVID restrictions and concerns. We need to spend time developing creative ways to get together, electronically, or via other creative means, for Bible study, Prayer Circles, Faith Formation, Virtual Crafts, Coffee Hours, etc. while respecting the health and safety of all.*

The Transition Team began its work in June 2021, meeting twice monthly, getting acquainted, reviewing the Transitional report and goals and considering preliminary steps. The Team recognized a few challenges from the beginning.

First remains the challenge of engaging in some of the process tasks of Transitional Ministry while abiding by the gathering limitations that accompany this pandemic time. The ability to connect and build relationships has been limited. Also noticeable as this process began were members of the congregation who questioned the need for Transitional Ministry or did not understand the purpose of Transitional Ministry. Understandably, there was some reluctance to participate in this “new” Transitional Time given the “asks” made of the membership to participate and provide feedback to a Joint Needs Assessment and Community of Faith Profile work that had taken place in the years leading up to this Transitional time and memories of a “Visioning Report” that was completed in April 2018. This initial reluctance seems to have shifted and the work of Transitional Ministry moves forward. A member of the congregation composed a “Prayer for Transitional Time” that remains in the weekly bulletin and there has been continued interest and involvement in some of the various process tasks that have been engaged in the past months. The Transition Team provides monthly updates in the newsletter, bulletin and occasionally in worship as a way to keep the congregation both informed and interested in this Transitional work.

Some of the initial process work focused on “History and Identity.” Over the summer months members of Woodlawn were asked to share stories about Woodlawn experiences that spoke to core values. In a church where there are many different people with their own personal core values, finding ones that are shared in common can help connect individuals to a particular ministry or mission that speaks to them. Although response to this invitation was not overwhelming the values named in individual submissions were similar. Values such as welcoming; serving; learning; growth; connection; caring and concern for others were commonly expressed. These core values will be revisited and



referenced when considering future mission and vision work. Such values also matter when considering governance and decision making processes, especially when looking for common ground. Another piece of “History and Identity” work involved a Saturday morning “prayer walkabout.” A small group of interested individuals gathered and spent some time connecting and sharing stories as the group walked through different parts of the church buildings and property. We gave thanks for past ministries, prayed for the present ministries that have been impacted by Covid, and asked for guidance and inspiration for our future mission and ministry to the community around us.

In the fall, a Grief Group met weekly over the course of five weeks. Although grief is usually associated with loss because of death, grief can occur because of any type of loss. Acknowledging and using the language of grief and loss is important during a transitional time, especially following the end of long-term ministry and keeping in mind what people have lost because of the pandemic. The people of Woodlawn need to know they are grieving and need to name what it is they grieve as a part of the process of letting go and moving forward. Understanding the impact of grief and its effect on relationships can help build better self-awareness, understanding and hopefully healthier relationships within the community. Related to the dynamics of change and loss, Bible studies have been offered focusing on “Texts of Transition.” Such studies seek to cultivate a culture that acknowledges the constant nature of change and possibility of faithful adaptation in the midst of change. A planned Lenten study this Spring will introduce language related to restorative justice and the work of reconciliation which is also related to the process of letting go and moving forward.

As this Transitional work continues, finding ways to encourage and support lay leadership remains a significant task - especially when it comes to building sustainable expressions of ministry and mission within the life of Woodlawn.

A Transition Team worship service in August encouraged listeners to consider different kinds of leaders and different kind of gifts of leadership. It was also a time to reinforce the reality of this season of Transitional Ministry in the life of Woodlawn.

In October, the Transition Team facilitated an “Open Space” event. This event is (as the name implies) was open to anyone. The approximately forty individuals in attendance were presented with an opportunity to answer the question, “What does living out the Transitional Ministry goals look like to you?” This process helped align individuals with areas they were passionate about. The Transition Team has planned a “World Café” event in order to follow up on the interest and energy generated from the “Open Space” - especially around the programming related goals for Woodlawn. This “World Café” remains on-hold during the current gathering restrictions. This is frustrating as it impacts the ability to sustain interest and build energy for future steps.

Something else the “Open Space” event generated was a small group established to continue work on governance. Committees are being asked to consider and review current



mandates. A member of the Transition Team will follow up with each committee in order to evaluate relevance of current duties, where things may have changed and where there may be dysfunction, gaps or potential conflicts. This information will be used to inform any revisions made to the governance system. Committee and teams in the church have been meeting regularly via Zoom so it is possible to do this work under the current restrictions. It is hoped that the governance system can be reviewed, revised and approved through the necessary channels in a timely manner in order to be implemented in time for the Annual General Meeting in early 2023.

It should be noted that Woodlawn has made efforts and continues to make efforts to adapt during this pandemic time. Membership and Leadership has shown a willingness to make changes and shifts in accordance with changing public health policies and limit guidelines. Zoom has been used for online adult study groups, committee meetings, some pastoral care and children's ministries. Worship is livestreamed and posted online each week. The role of the Communications team and Tech teams have definitely become more pronounced and important in the life of the congregation. Even mainstays like the Turkey Dinner and Chowder lunches have found new ways of being in the midst of a pandemic.

Another important piece of Transitional Work that has been in progress is the work of the Woodlawn Stewardship team who participated in a series of workshops and a review of Woodlawn with Roger Janes of Region 15. Besides being an example of Woodlawn working within the new governance of the United Church of Canada and within Region 15, the Stewardship Committee is now devising a strategy as it moves forward with the information and inspiration gathered from these workshops.

Covid and limited attendance in live worship has had an impact on giving. Although PAR has remained consistent and strong through Covid, there is a shortfall from weekly envelope givers. This will be an important consideration when Woodlawn moves from a Transition time and towards a call process.

The Transition Team acknowledges that although it is not a Committee of Council, it recognizes its role in the life of Woodlawn United Church and therefore respectfully submits this interim report for inclusion in the Annual Report.

We believe we are called to be the Church together and understand the work we do as a shared work of the whole congregation. We seek to do this with a spirit of mutuality and support. Even though this pandemic time has prevented us from being the church we were, this time of transition invites us to imagine, experiment and act so Woodlawn can be the church God is calling us to be as we bear witness to the Love of Christ in the world.

May God continue to bless the life and work of Woodlawn United Church.

*Submitted by Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner on behalf of the Transition Team*



## TRUSTEES REPORT

Special thanks goes to Dennis and Kathy Dean for all their time and dedication that they gave so kindly to Woodlawn's Trustees committee.

Two former members of Trustees, Malcolm Morash and Tom Inkpen, passed away this year. They will always be remembered for sharing their time and talent on Trustees.

We have a number of new members: Maarten Kramers, Gerald Settle and Kim Mitchell as well as Teri Giannou who is co-chair with Jim Allen. We also now are pleased to have our Transition minister, Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner on Trustees.

The following is a brief outline of some of what was done this year:

- New cleaning company called Forever Moore Cleaning started in September. Our cleaners name is Zaldy Nuqui and we welcome him and thank him for keeping our church clean.
- In September we had a day of cleaning in the Brick Church. Lots of garbage was removed and classrooms were cleaned and reorganized. We want to thank the following who came and helped out and helped us: Brenda and George Buchanan, Adelia and Graham Holloway, Jerry Jackson, Maarten Kramers, Art Theuerkauf, Barry and Shirley Zwicker, Shirley MacLeod, Gerald Settle, Gus Webb and Ernie Nickerson.  
We enjoyed lunch together and some great fellowship time.
- Planning an outdoor cleaning & painting one for the spring of 2022.
- Thanks to Art and Maarten for keeping the emergency lights and the fire extinguishers checked.
- Thanks to Chris and Jim for looking after taking the garbage away. Just a note to remind everyone that if you are using our church facility that you always take your own garbage, recyclables, compost, coffee cups, etc. with you when you leave so that it doesn't create extra work for them.
- Thanks to Nick Allan for putting the lights up around the solar panel cross which have been off for a bit but now back on again with some work on them, thanks to Jim. It seems to be weather related issues that cause them to go, so hopefully this problem is solved but will see as the wind and wild weather continues over the next couple of months.
- In case you haven't heard the solar panels have been paid off and we want to thank everyone who helped out with the planning and the installation.
- Thanks to Grant Warwick who is our Trustees Investment Administrator
- The Dun-Gen has been moved to the larger new location in the Heritage Building and when it was able to be open during this Covid time, it has been well utilized. Check it out if you are around on Thursday and Saturday mornings from 9-12. Lots of great items for sale and they take gently used clothing.



Thanks to all the Trustees for their time, who continue to maintain the property of Woodlawn United: Art Theuerkauf, Fay Gunter, Grant Warwick, Gerald Settle, Kim Mitchell, Maarten Kramers, Chris Riehl, & Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner.

*Respectively Submitted:*

*Jim Allan & Teri Giannou, Co-chairs of Trustees*

### WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH MEN

I began the 2020 report with these words “Not many words needed to report on our activities in 2020”. Those same words apply to 2021. We did manage to host a breakfast at Woodlawn on Dec. 11 with 29 men in attendance. With Gus on piano and Dick leading, we sang carols, enjoyed a couple of solos by George Diamond, had a time of sharing and learned much about Rev. Dale’s faith journey. In the words of many leaving that morning, “It was great to gather and see each other again” to which I say, Amen. My sincere thanks to Barry, Dwight and John in the kitchen, Ernie and Bob on tea & coffee, Peter checking Vax proofs and setting up sound equipment, Jerry on juice, muffins and fruit table. Also to Gus, Dick, George, Dale and Andrew for their participation in the program. Thanks to Dick for recording Dale’s message and sending it off to Don Hill. Don was sorely missed as he had organized and led the program in all the years that we have hosted the December breakfast at Woodlawn. Profit from the breakfast was \$88.00 which was donated to the East Dartmouth Food Bank.

Our finances stayed the same, nil balance.

**Bal. Dec. 31, 2020 NIL**

**Bal. Dec. 31, 2021**

**Nil**

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*Respectfully submitted by Ralph Sams, Secretary / Treasurer  
Woodlawn UCM*

### WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Because of COVID guidelines throughout 2021, the activities of the UCW were restricted and few. All units kept in touch by telephone and emails. Most held Zoom meetings. In the fall, four units resumed in-person meetings in the church. The four yearly General Executive meetings were held on Zoom.

For the second year, the Annual Spring Fling gathering in May was cancelled and the AGM in December was held on Zoom. We miss the fellowship and the food associated with these opportunities for all six units to meet as one. Life memberships are presented at the Spring Fling, but this year, Karen Staples (Membership) and I surprised Norma Hemming with hers at the December Farquharson meeting.

Sadly, four members passed during the year. They are missed and often remembered.





Individual units contributed to the charities that they have supported each year without physical contact: E.D.C. Food Bank, Edwards House and Brockwell House, Ian Forsyth School, and to the Christmas Outreach programs. Margaret House still received casseroles for 80+ on the third Wednesday of every month plus nine pies each for Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving. Hundreds of 8" brightly knitted squares were delivered to a group in Tatamagouche for shipping to South Africa to Knit-a-square. Volunteers sew the squares into blankets to warm and comfort cold, orphaned or vulnerable children.

Our large fundraising capabilities were limited but not completely absent. The Tabitha Unit coordinated a well-attended Craft Show in October and a take-out turkey dinner in November. The Connie Clarke-Marion MacDonald Unit sold Cookie and Soup Jars. The Dun-Gen, our gently-used clothing store, reopened in September in a larger location, the Turner Room of the Heritage Church, and had record-breaking sales until it closed in mid-December for the Christmas break.

Because of the above projects and the smaller fundraisers within individual units, UCW met its budgetary goals to the church General Fund, Adsum House, Brunswick Street Mission, Camp Kidston, Canadian Mental Health Association, E.D.C. Food Bank, Hospice Society of Halifax, Phoenix House, and Metro Non-Profit Housing. Our UCW Kitchen Fund paid for the repair of one of the commercial refrigerator/freezer units.

New members are always welcomed by every unit. If anyone is interested in joining but does not know a UCW member, please notify Karen Staples or the Office so that we can contact you. We would love to have you join us in Christian witness, study, fellowship, and service.

*Submitted by Bev Lynch, UCW Coordinator*

## **WORSHIP**

2021 was a transition year for Woodlawn United Church as well as for the Worship Committee as the two co-chairs were appointed to fill in for the acting chair Brian Moors who had been acting in this position on an interim basis.

The committee has had two meetings in 2021 (Oct.25/21 and Nov.24/21) with a third meeting taking place on Feb.2/22. These meetings took place via Zoom with our two ministers (Rev. Dale and Rev. Mary Lynne) in attendance as the pandemic has required most committees to use online meetings until such time as in person meetings can be approved.

The committee continues to oversee the programs that are within their mandate: Communion, Baptism and Blessings, Funerals, Chancel, Music, Audio Visual, Ushering and Greeting. The two other programs that needed restructuring were Funerals and Worship



Assistants. The Worship Committee would like to acknowledge the commitment and dedication that Nell Mallet and Sheila Richardson made as funeral liaisons for the church over the past number of years. As they will no longer be carrying out the duties of this important role, we would like to wish both Sheila and Nell well in their "Funeral Liaison retirement". We are grateful for their service to both the Church and to the families they ministered to. The committee also wanted to acknowledge the work of Dodie Covert in the management and organization of the Worship Assistant program over the past number of years as this position is no longer in place.

The coordination of the programs listed above by the chairs of these committees have provided an ongoing support that was needed because of the pandemic and all of their efforts were very much appreciated. As well, our new transitional minister (Rev. Dale) provided strong leadership to the committee on many of the issues and items that arose during our Zoom meetings. Rev. Mary Lynne has also provided strong leadership in those areas of Pastoral Care and Outreach. Both ministers supported the committee in addressing issues and concerns.

The topics that have been on our agenda at the two meetings we have had were:

- (a) Covid Protocols for church services,
- (b) Children and Youth programming,
- (c) Traditional and Alternative church services,
- (d) Review of the church's website,
- (e) Minister's short and long term planning and programming,
- (f) Reorganizing and restructuring of some existing programs (funerals, communion, audio-visual, etc.).

The committee appreciates the work that is being done by the Audio-Visual team in providing the livestream of our church services on Facebook and You Tube. It is a very important service for those unable to attend church because of Covid or who are shut-ins. The committee also wants to acknowledge the appointment of June Rigden as our new Choir Director and the return of many of our church choir members.

The Worship Committee is looking forward to the normalization of church services and the work of our various committees in 2022.

*Submitted by Murdock Morrison and Stephanie Bennett  
Co-chairs of the Worship Committee*

### **CHANCEL REPORT**

Similarly to last year (2020) I sit here working on the Chancel Committee report for this past year, and I wonder where to start. It has been another year of challenges. We are all being patient learning how to live with Covid 19 despite the changing restrictions.



We were able to decorate the Sanctuary on most of the regular seasons, particularly Thanksgiving and Advent. As you know we purchased most of the food for the Harvest display at Thanksgiving and all that food goes to the Food Bank after it leaves the Sanctuary on Thanksgiving Sunday.

I really appreciate all of the help I get from my husband because without him, lifting and reaching the storage containers, I would be unable to do my job. Thanks also to Fay Gunter for looking after the banners and to everyone who comes to help decorate, we are so very grateful for your time and talent, especially Burnell Field, who commits himself to whatever we ask of him.

Looking forward to a better year in 2022 and wishing you all good health and happiness.

*Submitted by Carol Fulmer, Chancel Committee*



Funeral Services Conducted by Woodlawn United Church Clergy in 2021

	Name	Date of Death	Date of Funeral at WUC or other site	Clergy	Funeral Liaison	Funeral Home	Funeral/Graveside Interment	Funeral or Committal held at other location
1	Jeanne Young	18-Sep-20	20-Oct-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Atlantic	Graveside	Dartmouth Memorial
2	Jean Blomfield	14-Jan-21	08-Sep-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Dartmouth	Funeral	Ashes released by family
3	Rita Erskine	08-Feb-21	22-Feb-21	Rev. M L Whyte		Arimathea	Interment	Hillcrest Cemetery
4	Joseph Baxter	08-Feb-21	13-Feb-21	Rev. Dale Skinner	N/A	A L Mattata II	Interment	Dartmouth Memorial
5	Don Trider	05-Mar-21	17-Mar-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N. Mallett	Atlantic	TBD	TBD
6	Vernon Arenburg	05-Mar-21	07-Jul-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	A L Mattata II	Interment	Woodlawn Cemetery
7	George MacLeod	08-Mar-21	17-Jul-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Atlantic	Graveside	Dartmouth Memorial
8	Elizabeth Lapierre	16-Apr-21	11-Sep-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	TJ Tracey	Graveside	Woodlawn Cemetery
9	David Cushing	28-Apr-21	29-Sep-21	Rev. M L Whyte	UCW	Serenity	Interment	Pine Grove Shelburne
10	Raymond Gill	02-May-21	29-May-21	Rev. Dale Skinner	N/A	Atlantic	Graveside	Dartmouth Memorial
11	Bert Dickey	30-May-21	24-Aug-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	N/A	N/A	Donated for Science Study
12	Ronald Turner	18-Jun-21	29-Jun-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	A L Mattata II	Interment	Dartmouth Memorial
13	Miles Manak	08-Jul-21	11-Jul-21	Rev. Dale Skinner	N/A	A L Mattata II	Interment	Woodlawn Cemetery
14	Charlotte LeGrow	15-Jul-21	27-Jul-21	Rev. Dale Skinner	N/A	A L Mattata II	Funeral/Committal	Woodlawn Cemetery
15	Harold Whyte	19-Jul-21	17-Aug-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A		Funeral/Interment	Advocate Cemetery
16	Doris Lockhart	05-Aug-21	31-Aug-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Serenity	Funeral	Highland View Amherst
17	Guy Allan Hermanson	30-Aug-21	18-Sep-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Serenity	Funeral/Committal	Woodlawn Cemetery
18	Phyllis Atwood	11-Sep-21	17-Sep-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Arimathea	Funeral/Committal	Hillcrest Cemetery
19	Sharon Harrett	04-Oct-21	21-Oct-21	Rev. M L Whyte	N/A	Atlantic	Interment	Dartmouth Memorial
20	Robert Borden	25-Nov-21	07-Dec-21	Rev. Dale Skinner	N/A	A L Mattata II	Funeral/Committal	Woodlawn Cemetery



## **MUSIC REPORT**

2021 was another year of changes and transitions for music at Woodlawn. Gus Webb, our organist and pianist, whose contract was renewed for another year, continued to provide well thought out service music and special offerings for Woodlawn services during the pandemic's ups and downs, online services, then in-person services, and then back to online services at year's end. June Rigden, a former accompanist, choir member, and choir director at Woodlawn, was hired in September to take over the position vacated by Marlene Nolet, as director of choral music. She began rehearsals with the choir in the fall following all protocols by Public Health and was pleased to see how excited the choir was to be singing in person together again. Jim Farmer continues to offer great support to June and the Choir in all things choral, and his guidance is greatly appreciated.

The Woodlawn Choir was Covid silenced from January 2021 through August 2021, but were happily "ReUnited" in the fall with safe distancing rehearsals in September and new singing masks made for the choir by Margot Butler. We did our debut on Thanksgiving Sunday offering the anthem "Grateful." Subsets of the choir, such as the Women's Choir or the Men's Choir, performed on certain Sundays, as did soloists and small groups. The choir of twenty plus is a dedicated group of singers who rehearse on Thursday evenings and support Woodlawn each Sunday morning and at special services. Their unique contribution to worship has been noted by so many who came in person or watched online. Sadly singing by the congregation and the choir have again been silenced as of the last couple of weeks in December, 2021, with current restrictions allowing only for a soloist. However, this time around, beginning in January 2022, the choir has begun meeting on Zoom and preparing for virtual anthems occasionally, with most of the choir and a few "back from the past" members joining in. June and Gus both have experience with this technology from their Halifax Regional Arts work last year. You will hear more about these efforts to support the choir until they are back singing in person in next year's report, when we hope and are planning for a return to more normalcy.

Sadly the Annual Woodlawn United Church and Fairview Citadel Salvation Army Band Combined Christmas Concert was cancelled due to Covid, as well as the again postponed concert by the Woodlawn-based groups Polyphony, Mitzvah, and Tapestry, directed by Jim Farmer. These traditions were sorely missed.

Future considerations of how to involve the youth and children in the presentation of music are ongoing, including the possibility of having a Woodlawn Orff Ensemble to present age suitable selections, depending on youth attendance, and presenting a multi-age religious musical, something Dale, June, and Gus have all worked on in the past and would be excited to pursue.

The pianos in the sanctuary and choir rooms are fine instruments, and the new humidity system installed on the choir room piano in Oct 2021 has made a huge difference in its ability to keep in tune.





Many thanks are given to Dodie Covert, dedicated Music Committee chair, and Jim Farmer, who lends his leadership to Woodlawn music in so many ways and whose recordings of the Chancel Choir and Polyphony are often featured so beautifully online to enhance the ministers' messages. We also recognize the support and incredible work of our Ministry Staff, Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte and Rev. Dale Skinner, both of whom sing in the choir and uniquely understand and encourage us, along with the skilled efforts of our office personnel Shelley Clee and Ruth Boutilier. In addition, we would like to thank the tireless efforts of our music librarians, Dodie Covert, Mona Ellis, Sheila Richardson, Belinda Awalt, and Linda Sinclair, whose work "behind the scenes" is so very much appreciated, especially in getting the ReUnited Woodlawn Choir up and running under new leadership. Respectfully submitted with hope for the future:

*Submitted by June Rigden, Woodlawn Choir Director & Gus Webb, Woodlawn Organist / Pianist*

## **YOUTH COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Youth Committee is comprised of Lisa Allen (Chair), Gus Webb (Secretary), and Susan Cuthbertson. The Youth Coordinator is Maggie Healy.

2021 involved a lot of changes. Katie Logan finished her time with us as Youth Coordinator. We are thankful for all her storytimes, her activities online and in person, and everything else she did to engage with the children and youth of Woodlawn. She is continuing on the path to ordainment at the Orchard Valley United Church in the Valley, and we wish her the best on her journey and hope to see her from time to time.

Our new Youth Coordinator, Maggie Healy, started in the fall. We were lucky to have some time between COVID restrictions for her to start working with the children and the youth. Numbers during worship topped out at 7 children one Sunday attending in the Sunday School Room with Maggie. Her sessions so far included activities such as reading bible stories, making crafts to decorate the Sunday School Room, and games. We have been blessed to have Maggie come on board and hope COVID allows for children to get together again at the church safely sooner than later.

The Youth Committee also had some turnover during 2021. We give thanks to previous Chair Kerri Graham for all her work in the past, and welcome new Chair Lisa Allen and new Secretary Gus Webb to the Committee.

The Youth section of the website has been updated to reflect the current COVID reality. As things open up again, we look forward to adding more pictures and events there.

A Crokinole Social was co-hosted by Youth Committee and Couples Club in November. There was a great turnout from the adults, and we hope to build momentum with the youth and children with events when COVID allows.



2022 is already looking like another year in which we will have to be flexible and adaptable, and Youth Committee looks forward to helping Youth and Children engage with the Church in whichever ways we are able.

*Submitted by Gus Webb, Secretary of Youth Committee*

