

JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WOODLAWN UNITED CHURCH

54 Woodlawn Road, Dartmouth, NS B2W 2S1

www.woodlawnunited.ca

T: 902-434-8302



Cover Image drawn by Carl Cunningham.

May your days ahead be greater than
the days gone by. Wishing you all
God's best in the new year.

Please join us for worship
on Sunday January 1st at
10:00 AM.

Worship will be led by
Jerry Jackson, Jim Farmer,
June Rigden, and
Polyphony, with special
guests.

Our first worship of the year
is always a very special
one where we celebrate
and welcome the
New Year through
music and storytelling.
We hope to see you.



CONTACT US



Woodlawn United
Church

54 Woodlawn Road,
Dartmouth, NS
B2W 2S1

(902) 434-8302

MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Dale Skinner

Dale.skinner@woodlawnunited.ca

902-580-4849

OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS

Shelley Clee & Ruth Boutilier

office@woodlawnunited.ca

902-434-8302

CHOIR DIRECTOR

June Rigden

Music.director@woodlawnunited.ca

MINISTER

Rev. Mary Lynne Whyte

Marylynne.whyte@woodlawnunited.ca

902-441-5185

ORGANIST

Gus Webb

Gus.webb@gmail.com

YOUTH COORDINATOR:

Maggie Healy

youth.coordinator@woodlawnunited.ca

GETTING INVOLVED

Within WUC there are Ministry Teams which are responsible for different areas of Church Life. If you would like to know more or get involved with one of these please email the contact person.

COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS: Barry Zwicker & Fay Gunter
Barry.zwicker50@gmail.com
faygunter@hotmail.com

FINANCE: Ivan Richardson
accountant@woodlawnunited.ca

COMMUNICATIONS / TECHNICAL SUPPORT:
Paul Whyte: epaul.whyte@gmail.com

OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Dawn Coleman
& Al MacIsaac: almacisaac@ns.sympatico.ca

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE: Vacant

TRUSTEES: Teri Giannou & Jim Allen
TGiannou@herculeslr.com / solarkingsns@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION & MANAGEMENT:
Keith Musselman: kmusselman@eastlink.ca

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL:
VACANT

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN:
Bev Lynch Bevlynch84@gmail.com

UNITED CHURCH MEN/ACCESSIBILITY:
Ralph Sams ralphsams@ns.sympatico.ca

YOUTH AND CHILD: Lisa Allen
Lisa.allen@dal.ca

COMMUNITY OF CARE: Jerry Jackson
Jerryjackson@live.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Saturday January 21st . The chowder will be drive through-take out featuring all the same delicious ingredients, as only Ralph would approve! Chowder pick up times will remain the same (11:30 AM – 12:00 NOON; 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM, OR 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM.) You can look forward to chowder, rolls from the Fancy Lebanese Bakery and dessert choice of pumpkin or apple pie, or carrot cake. The most popular lunch in Woodlawn! Please order by Wednesday January 18th to be guaranteed. Please contact Ralph at (902)434-7786 or Ralphsams@ns.sympatico.ca

CHOIR The Woodlawn Choir is pleased to be back in person sharing our voices in gifts of song, albeit still in masks to keep us all safe, and to be gradually increasing our ranks. New members are very welcome to join us for rehearsals Thursday evening. We have some very special music planned for 2023. If you have suggestions or questions about our music program, please call June Rigden (902)233-9379 or email jerigden@gmail.com.



FOOD BANK HOURS: The East Dartmouth Christian Food Bank will re-open on Thursday January 5th, 2023 for clients. Please continue to drop off donations for the Food Bank to the Church office.



All members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of Woodlawn United Church to be held on Sunday February 26th 2023. There will be vacant committee positions to be filled at that time. More details about the AGM will be available in the coming weeks.

Committee reports are due to the office by January 27th. The agenda, the Annual Report which contains business from the past year, financial statements for the year ending 2022, committee reports, budget for 2023, and list of individuals seeking election to the Board and Committees will be available to members the week before the AGM. Shelley will notify you when they are available for either download from the website, or to pick up in person. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

OUR STORIES



Woodlawn Chowders for Accessibility

Despite Covid, a flurry of storms and Hurricane Fiona's devastation, we were still able to offer 8 successful drive through chowders in 2022 earning just under \$16,000.00. That includes proceeds from four poorly attended musical events. So how do the chowders happen? On Wednesday Ralph

totals the orders on hand, gazes in his crystal ball and guesses how many more will come in and on Thursday orders the ingredients. On Friday at 1:00 PM approximately 12 to 15 folks gather to prep veggies and bag rolls. The usual participants include, Dorothy Lindsay, Juanita Sams, Bev Lynch, Linda Murphy, Kim Mitchell, Helen Henderson, Aruna Khan, Burnell Field, Carl Cunningham, Freda Rogers, Shirley Hiltz, Nancy and Lloyd Grant, Don McMillan and Janet Crichton. At 3:00 PM Grant and Sharon Warwick arrive to cut desserts.

On Friday at 7:00am John Weir, Joe Mahieux, Brian Moors, Dwight Perkins and Graham Holloway begin the chowder making process and soon the jokes and stories are flying and that chowder aroma begins to fill the kitchen. Another crew arrive at 10:30 to begin assembling orders for the 11:30 pick up. Included in this group will be the Lindsays, Eva Jenkins, Myrna Morash, Bev Lynch, Freda Rogers and Linda Murphy. The Gunters step in when a regular is not available.

Jerry Jackson, Bob Watt, Juanita Sams and Peter Woods get signage out and the tables in place upstairs. At 11:30 the customers begin arriving and another round of chatter and laughter is under way as these folks engage with the customers.

Added to these are our dedicated bakers who supply carrot cake and apple or pumpkin pie every chowder. Also Dorothy Sams and Juanita Sams who label all the bags on Friday night after Juanita has prepared the excel spread sheets.

It goes without saying that we are indebted to our good friends at Seaside FM who have helped us build our brand over many years.

We have a chowder a month booked in 2023 with the first on January 21st.

My heartfelt thanks go to all of these Friends of Accessibility.

Happy New Year! Sincerely, Ralph Sams, Chair of Friends of Accessibility.

Outreach News



The Woodlawn United Church Outreach team was very busy in December. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, talent, gift and financial donations, to make our White Gift Outreach activities such a wonderful success!

We were able to support 20 families (approximately 60 people) with groceries, a \$40 gift card to Sobey's for a turkey or other source of protein, knitwear, and gifts or a \$50 (per person) WalMart gift card (the family's choice).

We were also able to provide 15 new snowsuits/winter jackets for the children of our families. It was very rewarding to see the thanks and relief from the adults as they received these special gifts. Besides the 20 families, we were able to provide a total of 65 shoeboxes that were distributed to Edward House, Brockwell House, and Welcome Housing and Support. The North Grove was overwhelmed with all the children's clothing and toys that we were able to provide. The leftover hats and mittens will be distributed to the IWK neonatal unit and 3 local elementary schools.

So thank you once again to all who helped make Christmas special for those less fortunate. You are so generous, and it's great to know we can count on your support!

We hope that you and your families have a safe, healthy and happy 2023.

- Your Outreach Committee

Thank You!

WORD IN MY HEART – JANUARY 2023

Psalm 119:103, 105 (NRSVA)

103 How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.



Memorizing these two short scripture verses reminds us that God's words of Scripture are sweet sustenance to the soul; the spiritual food we need to remain spiritually healthy. As well, God's word illumines the mind and pathway to God. As Christians, we know from the Gospel of John, chapter one, that God's Word with a capital W is Jesus Christ. In John's Gospel, chapter six, as God's Word, Jesus describes himself as our spiritual sustenance calling himself the Living Bread and, in John chapter eight, he speaks of himself as our spiritual guide, calling himself the Light of the World, so we will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. Jesus Christ lights our pathway to God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, and nourishes our souls along the way.

May your life and soul be spiritually nourished and guided by God's word, and God's Word.

Blessings for a wonderful New Year,

Rev. Mary Lynne



What do you know about Mission and Service?

I would like to share some information with you –

Mission and Service is how we join together to share what we can with people and places that need it most.

The three goals of Mission and Service are:

- 1) To help transform and save lives.
- 2) To inspire meaning and purpose.
- 3) To build a better world.

Locally **Mission and Service** helps people in need by supporting homeless shelters, food banks, soup kitchens, and refugee programs. It cares for those who are sick or at the end of life by supporting addictions, mental health, and counselling services as well as hospice care.

Globally **Mission and Service** helps people access clean water, food, and medical care. It supports skills training and economic development, peacemaking, sustainable agriculture efforts, and provides disaster relief and advocates for the rights of children and migrant workers.

What a privilege to be a supporter of Mission and Service, to be able to help in so many ways.

A new year is beginning. If you are not already a supporter of **Mission and Service**, why not consider becoming a supporter by adding it to your PAR offering, your offering envelope, or put your donation in a plain envelope marked **Mission and Service**. Those so very much in need will thank you.

Mary Osborne

Mission and Service Enthusiast

HOW TO BUILD GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Think of no one as “them”
Don't confuse your comfort with your safety
Talk to strangers
Imagine other cultures through their poetry and novels
Listen to music you don't understand. Dance to it.
Act locally
Notice the workings of power and privilege in your culture
Question consumption
Know how your lettuce [and other fresh produce] and coffee are grown.
Wake up and smell the exploitation
Look for fair trade labels
Help build economies from the bottom up.
Acquire few needs
Learn a second (or third) language
Visit people, place and cultures — not tourist attractions
Learn people's history
Know physical and political geography
Know your heritage
Honour everyone's holidays
Look at the moon and imagine someone else, somewhere else, looking at it too
Read the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Understand the global economy in terms of people, land and water
Know where your bank banks
Never believe you have a right to anyone else's resources
Refuse to wear corporate logos: defy corporate domination
Question military/corporate connections
Don't confuse money with wealth, or time with money
Have a pen/email pal [Enjoy our human family]
Honour indigenous cultures
Judge governance by how well it meets all people's needs
Be skeptical about what you need
Eat adventurously
Enjoy vegetables, beans, and grains in your diet
Choose curiosity over certainty
Know where your water comes from and where your waste goes
Pledge allegiance to the earth:
Think South, Central and North — There are many Americas
Assume that many others share your dreams [You are not alone!]
Know that no one is silent though many are not heard
Work to change this.

RANDOM NOTES OF THANKFULNESS

We at Woodlawn realize that the church is the sum of its parts and the great work that each of us does for one another and for the community around us as we glorify God together. We also realize that we do not do this good work to be thanked but we do have the God-given opportunity to give thanks.

Thanks to the many individuals who assisted throughout the month of December with Woodlawn United's outreach project of supporting families in our community.

Thanks to the Trustees for taking the time to put up our exterior Christmas decorations and many thanks to the Chancel committee for decorating our Sanctuary, and common areas, beautifully.

Thanks to Miriam Forbes for her work on behalf of Sleeping Children Around The World. This was Miriam's last year for coordinating this event. We thank her for her many years of contribution.

Thanks to the members of Woodlawn who have continued to step up and made additional contributions to the General Fund and those that have made the switch to and/or upped their Pre Authorized Giving (PAR) as we continue to work towards eliminating the operating deficit.

We realize we cannot thank everyone every month, but it is hoped we can raise up in a *Spirit of Thanksgiving*, a few well deserving souls each month.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Outreach Committee meets in person at the church monthly, usually on the second Thursday at 10:00 a.m. for about 1.5 hours.

Thanks to Jane Cushing for suggesting and working hard to resurrect the weekly Bridge/Crib games. This is held every Tuesday at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$4.00. Bridge players and a few crib players will be able to gather and enjoy a social afternoon and small refreshments in the basement of the church. There are still spaces available if you wish to play. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and take down tables on a rotational basis. We will share our proceeds with the church general fund.

The following is a list of our current Outreach team members: Carolyn Doswell, Rev Mary Lynne Whyte, Rev Dale Skinner, Jane Cushing, Karen Nauffts, Laurie White, Linda Sinclair, Joanne Cameron, Murdock Morrison, Brian Moors, Tom Rogers, Dawn Coleman (co-chair) and Al MacIsaac (co-chair).

If you are interested in joining us, we always welcome new members. Come out and see what we are all about, as we work toward helping those in need.